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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, JANUARY 27-29, 2017

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'JUST ALL GONE'

Farmers market
destroyed by fire
metroNEWS



Tera Viccars, director stylist at Color by Amber, stood in silence when she arrived to assess the damage at the Symons Valley Ranch.

JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Jean's race already over, says expert

POLITICS

**Mt. Royal prof
says Kenny will
win handily**



**Helen
Pike**
Metro | Calgary

Saying he's confident he can defeat the NDP in the next provincial election, Brian Jean announced Thursday he's seeking a "clear mandate" from his party to throw open its doors and unite the right. The Wildrose leader said he's willing to step down and join a leadership race should a new conservative party emerge from what would be the rubble of the PC and Wildrose.

Mount Royal University Political Science Professor Duane Bratt said the move means Alberta will see a united right-wing party by summer 2017 — led by

Jason Kenney.

He said Jean's announcement means the leader is facing the facts developing right of centre in Alberta. "It's an acknowledgment that Jason Kenney is going to win the PC leadership," he said.

"What does surprise me is that Jean is going to try and beat Kenney in the leadership of this new party — I think that's going to be a tough task for him."

Jean said he is answering the Wildrose membership's call to unite, and do it under the Wildrose's grassroots mantra.

"While I am confident that Wildrose would defeat (Premier Rachel Notley's) NDP on our own in the next election, consolidating and uniting like-minded conservatives under a single banner is the best chance that we'll be successful."

"I think Kenney would defeat Brian Jean," Bratt said.

More coverage, pg. 6

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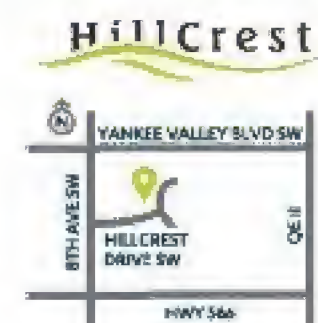
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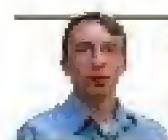
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Trump action may be our gain

MIGRATION

U.S. limits could bring refugees, immigrants to Canada



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

The Trump administration's plans to limit immigration and refugees could be a boon for Canada but also dangerous for those fleeing war-torn countries, according to Calgary experts.

On Wednesday, President Donald Trump signed an executive order slashing the number of refugees the country will accept from 110,000 annually to 50,000, and temporarily limiting immigration from some predominantly Muslim countries.

Fariborz Birjandian, CEO of the Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, said it's too soon to say what effect his executive order could have in the long run, but he is expecting a different environment over the next four years.

"The U.S. actually does a big bulk of the international work on refugees — it would be very sad to see the U.S. really doesn't want to do what they have been doing for many years," he said.

Birjandian noted refugees and immigrants are in two very different categories. While the first are fleeing dangerous situations in a hurry, countries compete to attract the smartest and most talented immigrants.



Many Syrian refugees who landed in Calgary have started their own businesses already. Pictured clockwise from top left are Mery Makhoul and Antoine Rayan owners of Aleppo's Kitchen, Omar Lababidi who started his own clothing line Fancy Label, Rita Khanchat, owner of Syrian Cuisine Made With Love, and Wafaa of Wafaa's Alterations. METRO FILE

"The United States is usually the first destination of choice for immigrants," said Birjandian. "It's a huge economic benefit."

He said it's possible Canada could benefit by attracting more highly skilled workers if the U.S. somehow reduced the number of immigrants it was

accepting.

Saima Jamal, co-founder of the Syrian Refugees Support Group in Calgary, noted that refugees also end up contributing greatly once they have some help getting on their feet.

"Whoever comes as refugees — the first two or three years we have to look after them,

but after that they are a huge help," she said.

"Once you have given them the tools, holy moly, are they ready to make a home, make a success."

She has grave concerns about the limits the U.S. is putting on immigration from certain countries. Currently the limits

are only for 30 days until the U.S. can re-examine its vetting process.

"We need to be cognizant that this might be happen to people that have already asked for refugee status — there could be a huge influx of refugees (at our border)," she said.

HEALTH

Flu-related deaths rise to 34



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

Watch out Edmonton, Calgary's flu numbers this season are nothing to sneeze at, but the sickness is headed north.

"It's still here and it's starting to affect other parts of Alberta more than it has been," said Dr. Judy MacDonald, chief medical officer of health with Alberta Health Services (AHS) for the Calgary Zone.

A total of 34 flu-related deaths have been reported this season, according to the latest data from AHS. Eleven people have died in Edmonton, while 10 flu-related deaths have been reported in Calgary. Calgary continues to lead the pack for influenza A, with 1,332 lab-confirmed cases. Edmonton, by contrast, has 645.

MacDonald said those numbers are climbing, but it's hard to compare the data to last year.

"In Calgary we've seen influenza A has started to taper off," MacDonald said. But influenza B is ready to pick up where the A-strain left off. "We've already seen our first influenza B outbreak," she said.

The outbreak was declared yesterday in the Calgary Zone.

A total of 62 flu-related deaths were reported in the 2015-16 flu season, which typically ends in March or April, according to MacDonald. A total of 2,754 cases of influenza have been confirmed in the province so far this season.

"It's not too late to be immunized," MacDonald said.

The vaccine helps protect against both strains of influenza.

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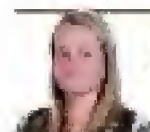
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No Garland DNA found in home

COURT

Forensic investigator questioned by the defence



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Investigators found no fingerprints or DNA of Douglas Garland in the home of Alvin and Kathy Liknes and where the couple and their five-year-old grandson were allegedly, violently snatched in June 2014.

Garland, who turns 57 tomorrow, is charged with three counts of first-degree murder for the apparent summer 2014 slayings of the five-year-old and his grandparents.

He pleaded not guilty last week. The bodies of the victims have never been recovered.

Lead forensic investigator Const. Ian Oxtan took the stand Thursday for the third day in a row, this time to field questions from the defence.

When asked by defence lawyer Kim Ross if any of Gar-



Burnt circuit board found in the ash pit for the burn barrels at the Garland farm. A forensic hardware engineer said it was a match to five possible Toyota vehicles. CONTRIBUTED

land's DNA or fingerprints had been found at the Liknes home, Oxtan said no.

In past testimony, Oxtan has also indicated a number of Tyvek suits and protective gear was found in Garland's home.

Further, Oxtan established

there was also no DNA found on a pair of child-sized handcuffs from the farm, and no DNA from the victims on weapons located in an outbuilding inside a black bag.

He also told Ross they never did locate a pair of shoes



Toyota Tundra belonging to Alvin and Kathy Liknes and parked in their driveway at the time of their June 2014, disappearance. CONTRIBUTED

matching the impressions from the Liknes home.

Oxtan spent Wednesday detailing the 10 months he spent sifting through ashes from the Garland farm — locating fragments of what he believes to be teeth and bone, as well as

jewelry, glasses and shackles.

Ross asked Oxtan if after July 2014 the 120 gallons of ashes seized from the Garland farm in March 2015 were guarded to ensure continuity.

The investigator told Ross that it hadn't been guarded,

and that Douglas Garland's father, Archie Garland, had told him he'd continued to use the burn barrels and ash pit.

Const. Kyle Lees, of the RCMP Specialized Tactical Operations team explained how on July 9, 2014, while conducting a cavity search of the Garland home he climbed up and reached into the rafters of the furnace room. He found a hidden hard drive, documents with the name Matthew Kemper Hartley and cash.

In their opening statement, the Crown said that Garland has meticulously researched both the Likneses and the crime he planned to commit, and that much of that information was found on the hard drive.

Court also heard from Kimberly Warren, a forensic hardware engineer for the RCMP.

Warren explained how she examined a burnt circuit board found in the Garland ash pit and how she was able to identify it as a match for a total of five Toyota vehicles, one being a Toyota Tundra — the same kind of truck parked in the Likneses driveway at the time of their disappearance.

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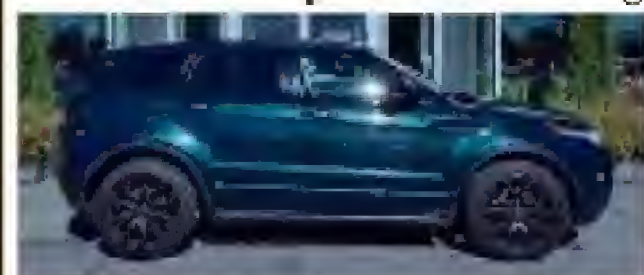
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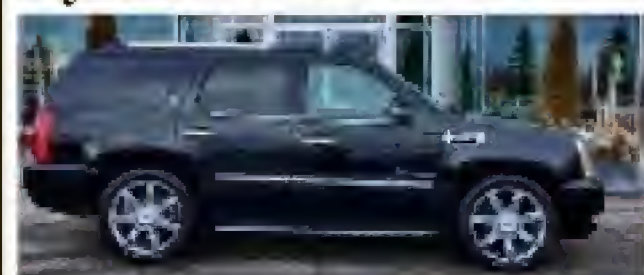
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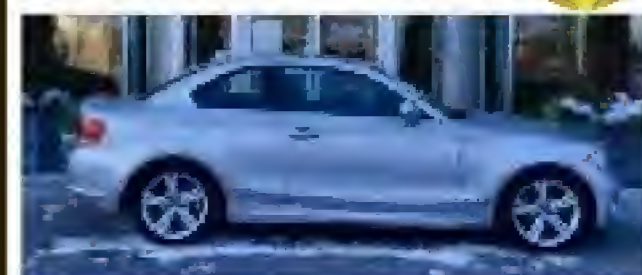


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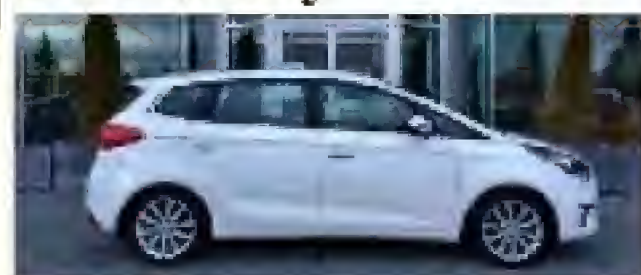
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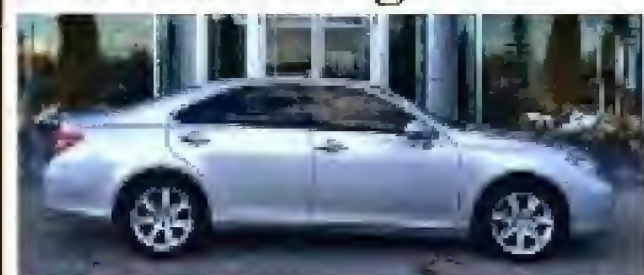
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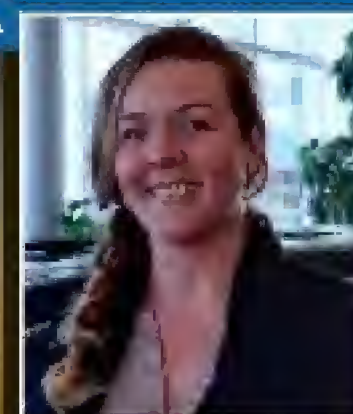


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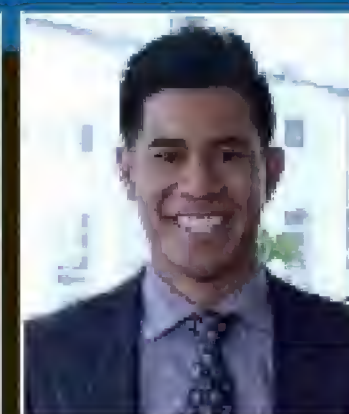
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BUSINESS

Lobby group gives Alberta 'F' for red tape



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

A business lobby group says Alberta needs to slash some red tape.

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) gave the province an "F" on its annual report card, which grades provinces and territories on their "commitment to red tape accountability" by looking

at political leadership, public measurement and constraints on regulations.

The report card claims red tape reduction is not a priority for the Alberta government.

The province was not ranked last year as the new NDP government was just settling in, but typically fares in the "D" range.

Only Alberta and the Northwest Territories got failing grades this year, while British Columbia and Quebec both scored an "A."

"This year we have seen a

complete lack of momentum to take action on red tape," said Amber Ruddy, CFIB's director of provincial affairs for Alberta.

The CFIB is advocating for greater transparency with regulations that businesses need to comply with, and for lifting "unnecessary" regulations to make life easier for business owners.

Jean-Marc Prevost, press secretary to Economic Development Minister Deron Bilous, noted the province has taken recent actions to help businesses —

including new tax credits, restoration of training programs for new entrepreneurs, new programs to help businesses diversify and expand to new markets, and a 33 per cent reduction in small business taxes.

"We want Alberta to continue to be the best place to do business and we are listening to small business owners," Prevost said in an e-mailed statement.

"If the CFIB has more ideas, we look forward to hearing them."



Alberta Wildrose Leader Brian Jean. METRO FILE

Jean's entry welcomed by Kenney

POLITICS

Wildrose leader says members' approval would signal merger

Wildrose Leader Brian Jean has opened the door to uniting with the Progressive Conservatives to end more than a decade of bruising political infighting between Alberta's centre-right parties.

But Jean said if it's going to happen, the Wildrose members have to say yes, and it will be done under the Wildrose umbrella and under Wildrose rules.

"It is my vision and my plan to make Alberta a place of unparalleled greatness, leading the strongest period of job creation in our history."

Jean said he is acting on the wishes of most party members who have told him over the past year that he should pursue unity, but only in a way that honours the Wildrose commitment to grassroots democracy.

He said he and other caucus members will attend town hall

meetings to gauge the interest and attain a clear mandate to hold such a vote "if the PC members select a dance partner that we've been looking for."

The Progressive Conservative party is currently in a leadership race that has two of the four candidates running on a promise to get a deal with the Wildrose.

Candidate Jason Kenney said if he wins the March 18 delegated vote, he will seek a mandate to dissolve the party and merge it with a dissolved Wildrose party to create a new conservative entity, possibly titled the Conservative Party of Alberta.

He wants party members to make major decisions and to have a united party ready to fight the next provincial election in the spring of 2019.

Kenney lauded Jean's announcement.

"This demonstrates real leadership on Brian's part and it demonstrates that he's in touch with the common sense of common Albertans who are telling us to bury the hatchet, park the egos, park the brands and labels and get past a decade of division," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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But what about that incredible endorsement you saw on TV? Every week the producers of the shows that feature cosmetic treatments are looking for new content to keep the viewers entertained. Let me just say that just because a treatment is new doesn't necessarily mean it is better.

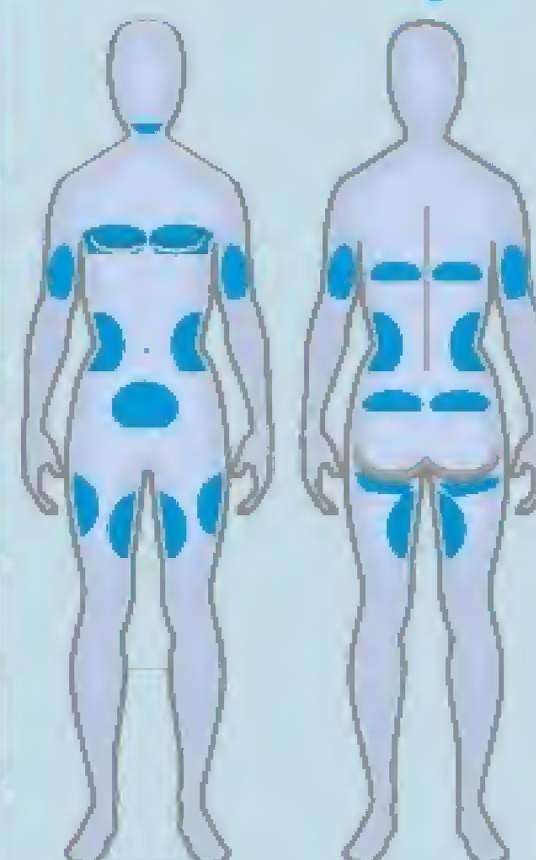
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Blaze destroys a Calgary icon

FIRE

Smoke from Symons Valley Ranch forces evacuations



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

Christmas wreaths clung to the rafters as crews from the Calgary Fire Department (CFD) battled a two-alarm fire at Symons Valley Ranch this morning.

Neil Gillies, an employee at the popular farmers market in the city's northwest, said his boss called to tell him the news early this morning.

"I've only felt like that a few times in my life ... just complete shock, you're at a loss for words" Gillies said.

"I just really feel for the vendors."

Carol Henke, public infor-

mation officer for the CFD, said several people called 911 around 6 a.m. Thursday morning to report the fire.

Crews arrived to find the market building fully engulfed in flames.

Ken Aylesworth, managing partner of the ranch, called the blaze "devastating."

"It's a gut punch, that's probably the best way to describe it," Aylesworth said.

The land was purchased by Les and Ellen Jones in 1968, and the Ranch House Restaurant and Lounge was built in 1987.

"There's not many people who have lived in Calgary for all their life that haven't been here at least once," Aylesworth said.

He said he's spoken with his partners and there is a desire to replace the market in some form, but they are playing it by ear for now.

A gas line was fuelling the

blaze, but ATCO crews were able to shut off utilities to the structure mid-morning.

One of the market's 32 vendors said he was in shock.

"All of the vendors were like family here," said Arce Morah, owner of Mom's Happy Kitchen.

He is concerned about vendors who would lose their only source of income.

"I know like three or four guys who just started their business, I wonder what they're going to do," Morah said.

He has two other business locations in Calgary and said he will recover from this loss.

Henke could not confirm if anyone was in the building when the fire started, however no injuries have been reported.

Firefighters will remain at the site for several days while they investigate the cause of the blaze.

“

It's a gut punch.

Ken Aylesworth



Crews battle a fire at Symons Valley Ranch in Calgary on Thursday. ELIZABETH CAMERON/FOR METRO

EVACUATION

Nearby residents ordered to leave

Concerns about a big volume of smoke from an early-morning fire at a Calgary landmark led to dozens of people being asked to leave their nearby homes because of air-quality concerns.

Authorities say there was no risk of damage to nearby homes, but the smoke led to area residents being asked to stay indoors, while about 40 people were ordered to leave the neighbourhood until the situation improved.

There are no reports of injuries.

More than 100 First Student Canada school buses stored at the site were not damaged, but parents were warned that transportation to classes would be delayed due to the fire.

This is the second major fire at Symons Valley Ranch, which was built in 1968. A blaze destroyed three banquet halls in 1989.

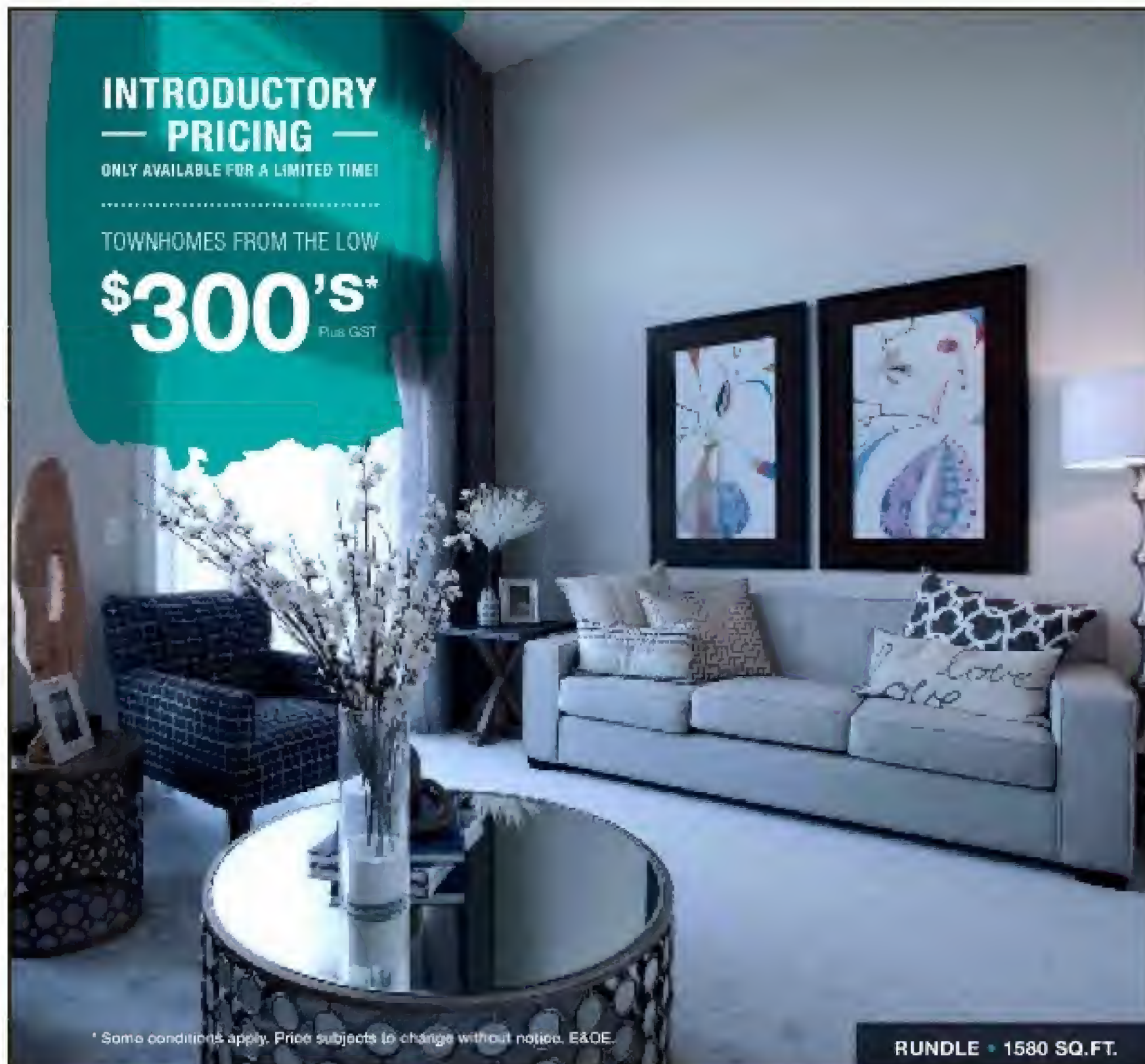
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Spiritual care position cut

HEALTH

Duties will be absorbed by the rest of centre's team



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

A woman who battled breast cancer for years is heartbroken over a decision to cut a specialist position at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre (TBCC).

The spiritual care co-ordinator provided support to patients who have big questions about their path forward after receiving a cancer diagnosis.

"The spiritual part is equally important as the treatment part," said Natalie Barre, who used to frequent the facility and still visits occasionally for check-ups.

The psychological and social support she found through the TBCC helped her persevere through 11 surgeries over the course of nine years.

"It helped me find the strength to keep going," Barre



The Tom Baker Cancer Centre has cut its spiritual care co-ordinator. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

said.

Going forward, the head of TBCC's oncology department said the responsibilities of the coordinator will be distributed between the psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and resource counsellors that make up the facility's psycho-

"It helped me find the strength to keep going."

Natalie Barre

social care team.

"We felt the whole group should be addressing this, not one particular individual," said Dr. Sunil Verma, who is also the medical director of the facility.

"We're looking at it not as a loss of one spiritual care provider, but really a gain for the

whole psych-social oncology team to be able to provide the whole care, including spiritual care, for our patients."

Verma said there is no financial motivation behind the cut.

"We would never consider financial aspects in order to remove a program that patients would value," he said.

Alberta's health minister said AHS reassured her office that patients seeking spiritual guidance or comfort at the TBCC will receive it.

"Access to spiritual support can not only be crucial on a personal level to a patient, it can also have a meaningful effect on the patient's recovery and wellbeing," Sarah Hoffman said, and added Alberta Health will be following up with AHS to monitor the situation.

Barre, who works in health care, said her first suggestion for friends who have received a cancer diagnosis is to seek emotional and spiritual support.

"Having someone to listen and maybe say a little prayer with you is so important," she said.

"That could be the difference someone needs to help keep fighting."

ENERGY

Ikea buys second wind farm

Ikea Canada has signed a deal to buy an Alberta wind farm from TransAlta and Teck Resources for a total of \$119.6 million.

TransAlta said Thursday it will receive about \$61 million for its 51 per cent interest in the 88-megawatt Wintering Hills wind farm near Drumheller, Alta.

Teck said separately that it will receive \$58.6 million for its 49 per cent stake.

Ikea said the 55 turbines at Wintering Hills generate enough electricity to power 54 Ikea stores or nearly 26,000 Canadian households.

It is the second Canadian wind farm for the furniture retailer which has 12 stores across the country.

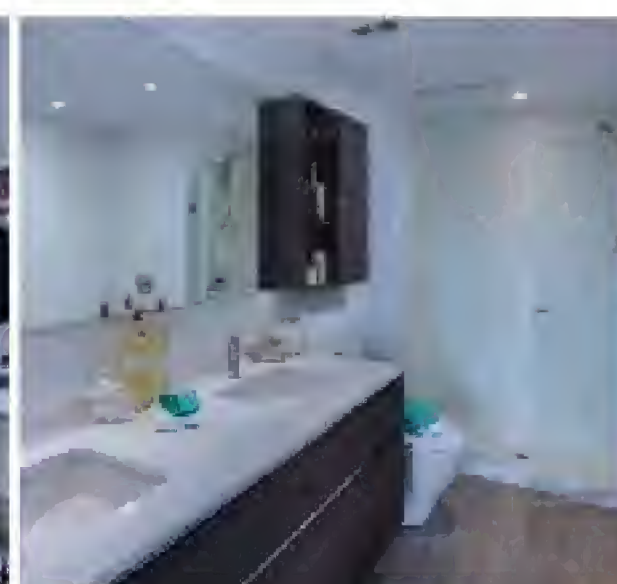
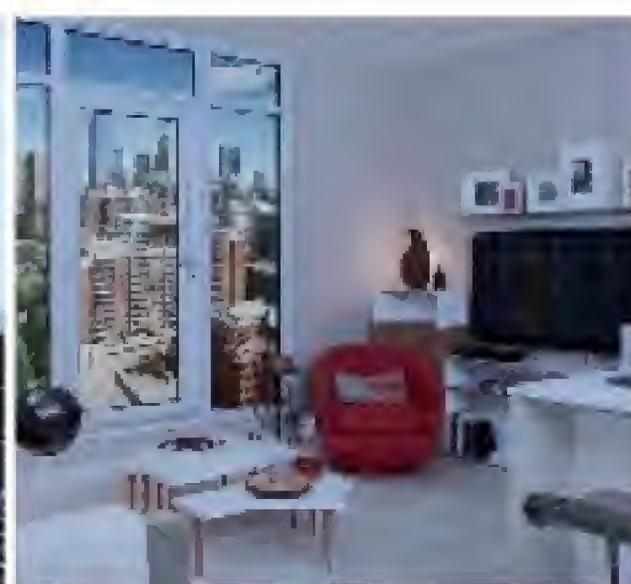
It already has a 46MW wind firm in Pincher Creek, Alta., that it acquired in 2013.

Together, the two wind farms can produce more than four times the energy consumed by Ikea's Canadian operations.

The global furniture and furnishings company has set a goal of generating more renewable energy than it uses by 2020.

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CRIME

Police seek car linked to homicide case



Police are looking for a dark, four-door 1999-2003 Mazda Protégé in connection with a recent homicide investigation. COURTESY CPS

Calgary police have released photos of a vehicle they believe is related to a recent homicide.

Initially, police were looking for a white Pontiac G5 that is believed to have dropped Itgel Baatarsuren off at the Sheldon Chumir Health Centre with a gunshot wound to his head.

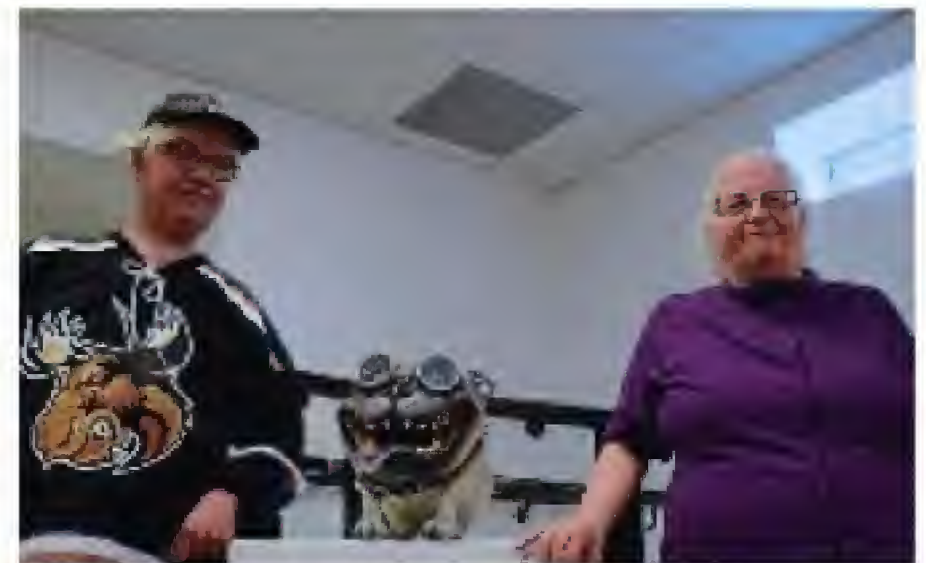
The 22-year-old from Calgary later died in hospital.

Investigators believe the shooting took place in the 900 block of 36 Street NE between the hours of 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

The new vehicle of interest is a dark-coloured, four-door 1999-2003 Mazda Protégé, Calgary police said in a release Thursday.

It's unknown how many occupants may have been in the suspect vehicle, however police believe they were involved.

Anyone with information about the vehicle of interest is asked to contact the Homicide Tip Line at 403-428-8877, the police non-emergency number at 403-266-1234, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. METRO



Scott Marshall and Roma Shafer were inspired in different ways by the fantastic dog sculpture. AARON CHATHA/METRO

No barriers to creation

CULTURE

Interplay encourages artists with disabilities



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

There are 23 Calgary artists currently proving developmental disabilities are no barrier when it comes to creativity.

The In-Definite Arts Society primarily works with artists with disabilities to create paintings, sculptures and stitching pillows.

Recently they teamed up with Studio Y Creations, who are known for their detailed sculptures, to create Interplay.

Studio Y donated a few sculptures, from pigs in rocking chairs, a goose ready for vacation or a smiling dog in aviator glasses, the sculptures served as an inspiration point for the artists.

"In my mind, dogs, they like bones, right?" chuckled artist Roma Shafer. "I painted the background pink, because I like bright colours. Dogs like

bones, so I drew some bones."

Shafer has been attending art classes at In-Definite Arts for close to 14 years.

She prefers to work on a 16 x 20 canvass, and loves the confidence creating art gives her.

"I don't know where I'd be without this program," she said. "I come here every Tuesday."

Her picture sits next to Scott Marshall's, who saw the same sculpture of a dog and was reminded of his cousin's pug who passed away some years ago.

Artistic director Roxanne Taylor sees people with developmental disabilities come in every day and explore their own identities.

"People with disabilities tend to be marginalized in a lot of areas of their life, but when they come to this program, it's all about them," she said. "They make art that's interesting to them, they can choose to sell it and that can supplement their income."

Visitors are invited to drop in and meet the artists while exploring the gallery – it does wonders for the painter's self-confidence.

The Interplay gallery will be until March 16 at the In-Definite Arts Society.

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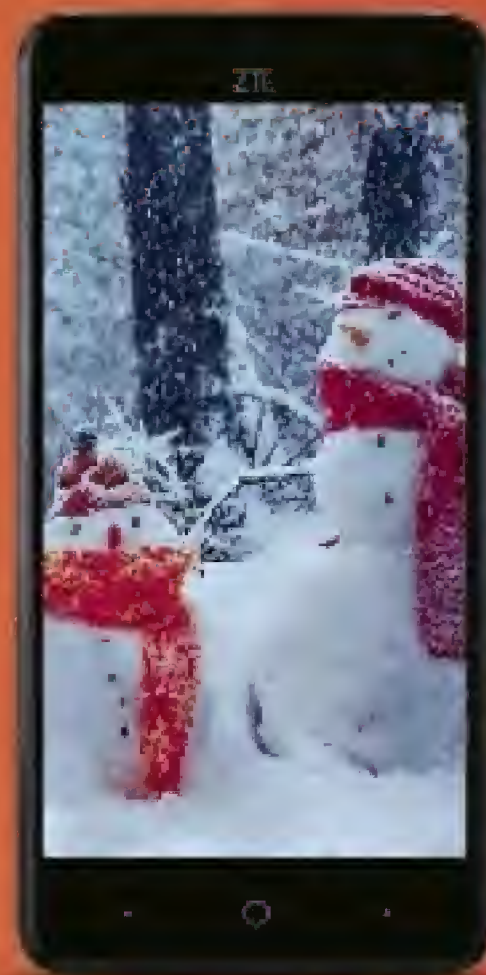
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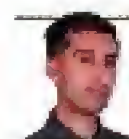
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SCENE YYC

Block Heater back for a second year



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

If the latest chinook winds haven't thawed your spirits, a few days of good music surely will.

Local bands are tuning their guitars in preparation for Block Heater, which is the Folk Festival's winter initiative.

"It's nice to have a festival that promotes music and gets people outside — we usually just stay inside during the cold weather, right?" said artist JJ Shiplett.

The Alberta singer-songwriter has been part of the local scene for more than 10 years now, and is proud that his Block Heater shows will be the first time he gets to show off his new album live.

There's nothing like playing a hometown show.

"The energy levels are always



Local singer-songwriter **JJ Shiplett** is one of the artists performing at Block Heater. FACEBOOK

a little bit higher, it feels great," he said.

Block Heater takes place in four venues throughout Ingle-

wood, making it pretty easy to check out multiple shows in a night.

One of the reasons Block Heat-

er was created was to fill a void in the winter months, to bring people together when they're usually huddled up inside.

As with the Calgary Folk Fest, it also gives artists a chance to connect to their audience.

"That's why I play music,

“

We usually just stay inside during the cold weather, right?

JJ Shiplett

because there's a sense of community with these people you have no history with, but you can get in a room and share anything," said Reuben Bullock of indie folk band Reuben and the Dark.

In fact, love for the local indie band is so strong that Reuben and the Dark sold out their first Block Heater show and added a second one to the slate.

"That's a pretty difficult feeling to describe; just to have people care, and support what you're doing," he said. "Looking out from the stage and seeing a crowd of people singing your songs, it's magical."

Other Block Heater acts include Sykamore, Kris Ellestad and Kobo Town.

The festival runs from Feb. 10 to 12. For more information, visit calgaryfolkfest.com.

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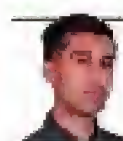


Don a costume for Halloween in January. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO

Janu...scary

Q&A

All ages show lets you have another crack at Halloween



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Pull out those Dracula teeth and Ninja Turtle threads — Halloween is coming back for a special January encore.

Organized by Major Minor, Halloween in January is an all-ages concert that encourages participants to come in costume, get some chocolate and rock out to great music.

It takes place on Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. at the Albert Park Radisson Heights Community Association.

Organizer Graham Mackenzie walked us through it.

Q: What is Halloween in January?

A: January always has the distinction of being the month with the most depression and sadness — and the stigma attached to that.

Also, it has the lowest levels of Halloween.

We hope to change that with Halloween in January, to maybe improve the situation. Also there's a lot of fundraising in December, but not a lot in January, so we're fundraising for the

Distress Centre. To tie into our theme that January hits people pretty hard.

We're encouraging everyone to get dressed up, and we hope to make it an annual thing.

Q: What's the musical lineup?

A: There are a lot of heavy bands in Calgary and we have a good cross-section of some heavy bands. Numenorean (the headlining band) signed to a major label and are planning on doing a world tour this year. This is potentially going to be a breakthrough year for them and the Calgary scene. And this is their very first all ages show — which might not happen again for a while, so it's pretty special.

There's another band called Outlaws of Ravenhurst, who dress up like medieval warriors.

Some of these bands are positioned to have really good years, so this is a big kick-off to concerts for the year.

Q: Why are all ages events important?

A: A few reasons. With the heavy music, there's no access point. We have a really good scene going on, but there's not a lot of access for young people to it. So we're trying to create that access to get people to really enjoy what's going on locally.

Hopefully it inspires people to get out there, create their own band and go for it.

WEEKEND EVENTS LOTS TO SEE, AND DO, AROUND TOWN

Friday: All's Well That Ends Well

The Shakespeare Company is nearing the end of its run of All's Well That Ends Well. One of Shakespeare's lesser-known plays, the story follows Helena in her efforts to win the affection of Bertram. The dark comedy merges love, betrayal and seduction. shakespearecompany.com

Saturday: MixTape Live

Revv52 is bringing together fifty singers and a five-piece band who will perform hit songs from famous musicians, including: The Who, Justin Timberlake, Prince, The Rolling Stones and Lady Gaga. Revv52 has been performing a cappella and remixed hits since 1952. revv52.com

Saturday: DreamWorks in Concert

Shrek, Madagascar, Kung Fu Panda, How to Train Your Dragon and more will be performed by the Philharmonic Orchestra. A great show for kids and families, the show presents visuals of the stories and characters on the big screen as the musicians perform. calgaryphil.com

Sunday: RV Expo

Rev those motors up and get down to the annual Calgary RV and Expo sale. There will be more than 400 models featured at the show, including the latest 2017 models. The 48th annual show takes place at the BMO Centre in Stampede Park, offering tons of space to show off mobile living space. gorving.ca

AARON CHATHA/METRO

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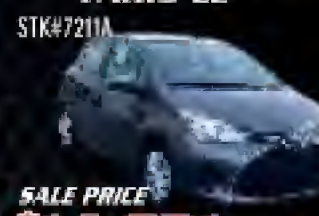
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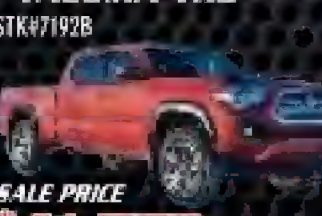
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NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP ORDER TO: Michelle Keewatin

Take notice that on the 17th day of February 2017 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1208, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a Hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order**; of your child born on **July 9, 2016**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you **MUST** appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
Calgary Region, Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978

'There's a meanness in public discourse'

ENGAGEMENT

Nenshi talks consultation — what works what doesn't



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

In a year of banning people from the council chambers, raucous consultation sessions (outlined with threats of violence), and communities pointing fingers begging to be heard; it's fair to say 2016 was a tough consultation cookie.

But the city had a few wins in 2016, in terms of modernizing their approach. They launched the online portal "engage" and thousands of Calgarians have taken a pause from their busy schedules to log on and share their thoughts about projects on the Reddit-like forum.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi said although the city has diversified how they listen to people,

this isn't the end of face-to-face consultation, but the city's having to increasingly adjust their approach.

He noted some people have kids or schedules that make it tough to get to these consultation sessions — or, as this year showed, didn't want to go into an aggressive meeting where residents are shouting about their Mercedes, or worse yet, threatening to strangle someone.

Nenshi said the other thing that works well is going to people where they're at. In the Chinatown consultations, he said it worked well to catch people while they were in the area at a pop-up consultation on a street corner — his favourite out of these methods has to be the engagement bus.

But what the mayor has seen this year is something he's calling a world-wide trend, and it's

worrying.

"There's a hardening and a bitterness and a meanness in public discourse," he said. "It's clear that we're not getting authentic engagement if people are too scared to speak up because their neighbours are going to yell at them. So we need to be able to move beyond that and figure out ways that everyone feels comfortable in bringing forth their true opinion."

As for the engagement on one contentious Chinatown development, the mayor said administration went above and beyond, save tucking people into bed and reading them a story, he's not sure what more the city could have done.

"Since time immemorial someone who doesn't agree with the results of the consultation will claim there wasn't enough consultation," said Nenshi.



We're not getting authentic engagement if people are scared.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi



The city is finding alternate engagement methods, but still keeping their open house approach. COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

Calgary



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We're accepting applications for Census Takers and Enumerators from Jan. 23 to Feb. 9, 2017.

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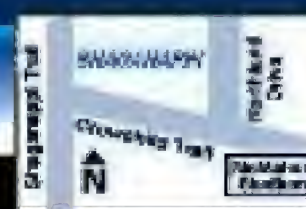
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HEALTH TRANSFER DEAL

Money for provinces is on the table: PM

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says tens of billions in federal health transfer payments are there for the taking if the provinces want them.

He also reiterated that Ottawa is offering an additional \$5 billion in targeted funding over 10 years for mental-health care.

"We've put forward significant amounts of money. It's (up) to provinces whether they want that money or not," Trudeau said before a town-hall meeting in Winnipeg.

He did not answer a question about whether he would impose a deadline to reach a deal.

The three territories, three Atlantic provinces and Saskatchewan have signed onto the federal government's health-funding plan. Trudeau said he is looking forward to working with the hold-out provinces "to make sure we're responding to the needs of Canadians."

"For almost 10 years, the previous government had nothing to do with the provinces on health

care ... and therefore Canadians felt that their health-care outcomes and system was suffering."

The PM was in Winnipeg Thursday as part of a cross-country tour to meet with Canadians and hear their concerns. It was the same day Manitoba launched an online ad campaign criticizing the federal government's plan to limit annual increases in health transfer payments.

Health Minister Kelvin Goertzen has said the campaign is intended to educate Manitobans

about what the Liberals "are going to do in terms of reducing their health-care services."

The federal government has been criticized for weeks over its plan to limit how quickly health transfers increase. A deal reached in 2004 saw transfers rise about six per cent a year for a decade. The Liberal government is offering annual increases of either three per cent or a three-year average of economic growth, whichever is higher.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



New numbers are showing for the first time the depth of the homelessness problem in 28 small and medium-sized Canadian communities, and clarifying the picture in four larger cities.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO

New stats on homeless

POVERTY

'Point-in-time' count brings issues into sharper focus

Chad Bouthillier is no stranger to couch surfing, homeless shelters, transitional housing and addiction issues — but until now, the rest of the country has been largely in the dark about the depth of homelessness in Canada.

A new federal government report is shedding more light on the problem in 32 Canadian cities, exposing a need for a targeted approach to help vulnerable populations like veterans, Indigenous people and recent immigrants.

Last year's federally organized "point-in-time" homeless count found 5,954 people living in shelters, on the street or in transitional facilities, says the report released Thursday.

Indigenous people, long over-represented among the homeless, were nine times more likely to be homeless than non-Indigenous Canadians, the report found. Veterans comprised about five per cent, twice their proportion of the general population.

The count also found entire families of homeless — mostly single parents with children — and people aged 16 to almost 80. Recent immigrants and refugees accounted for four per cent of those counted, with women and girls in that category more than twice as likely than non-immigrants to cite domestic abuse as

BY THE NUMBERS

Over-representation of vulnerable populations:

■ **Indigenous people** were nine times more likely to be homeless than non-Indigenous Canadians, the report found.

■ **Veterans** comprised about five per cent, twice their proportion of the general population.

a cause of their homelessness.

While addiction and substance abuse was often cited as a cause for those under 65, financial problems, such as being unable to pay the rent, was a prominent cause among seniors, the report found.

"Homelessness does not discriminate against age, race, anything like that," said Bouthillier, 40. "Nobody chooses to be homeless, but your actions bring you there. Either mental health, addiction — anything."

There were also a higher than expected number of "chronic" homeless who have been homeless for more than six months, many of whom don't go to shelters and may be harder to reach through traditional support systems. Then there's the so-called "hidden" homeless: people who don't typically make use of available shelters or social services.

The federal government will use the numbers as part of its effort to craft a national anti-poverty strategy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The City wants ATU Local 583 to cut jobs in an effort to save a small amount of money at a time when their impressive, and growing, Rainy Day Fund amounts to more than half a billion dollars. Even worse, the proposed job cuts and outsourcing fails to consider hidden and long-term costs that will hurt workers and commuters alike.

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Tax havens: Lessons from Britain

PANAMA PAPERS

In 2016, it became leader in exposing tax cheats

The glittering towers and spartan offices of this international financial capital hold billions of illicit offshore dollars, money belonging to countless anonymous company owners who came here to evade taxes and finance fraud, money laundering and terrorism.

That established model of corporate concealment, adopted by Canada, has met its end in Britain.

Last June, Britain became the world leader in exposing tax cheats by requiring corporate registrations to include the names of the real company owners — or “persons with significant control” — and listing the records in a database that anyone can view free online.

The British model, although still new, has been hailed as groundbreaking for disarming the most essential weapon for tax evaders: secrecy. Britain's top financial crime cop considers



A Union flag flies near Big Ben in London. Britain requires corporate registrations to include the names of the real company owners and list them in an online database.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

corporate ownership secrecy “a threat to the economic security of the U.K.”

The Canadian government has displayed no such sense of urgency. In Canada's federal and provincial corporate registries, it is difficult — often impossible — to identify the real owners of companies if they choose to hide behind lawyers, accountants or paper-only directors.

It's the same kind of corporate secrecy that lures money launderers, tax evaders, drug traffickers and embezzlers to offshore tax havens such as

Panama, the Seychelles and British Virgin Islands.

Canada's growing reputation as a tax haven has consequences, say experts, including attracting money from criminals and injecting unrestrained foreign investment into real-estate markets that drives up housing costs beyond the reach of many Canadians.

Here's how it works: Let's say you're a foreign business person looking to evade taxes and hide any connection to money flowing into your company.

You may well want to run

that cash through an anonymous shell company registered in a place that doesn't require you to list your name on any public document, file taxes or keep any financial records.

Ontario is perfect.

Ontario limited partnerships have become a go-to corporate structure for hiding international wealth legally thanks to secretive business registration and regulations that are being used in ways the province never intended.

Countries around the world are wrestling to close the regu-

latory black holes that facilitate tax evasion in the aftermath of the Panama Papers revelations, based on the leak of 11.5 million documents obtained by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and shared in Canada with the Star and the CBC.

Britain, once heavily criticized for failing to control its overseas territories such as the British Virgin Islands, chose the right target for rooting out tax cheats, says Robert Palmer, who runs the anti-money laundering arm of the U.K. research group Global Witness.

Former British business secretary Vince Cable, an architect of the British public registry, said his government acted because the country was “in danger of attracting bad people with bad money.”

“Russian oligarchs for an example, they did acquire quite substantial companies here,” said Cable, who took on powerful corporate interests in the City of London to create the registry.

“Britain has taken the lead and now it is reasonable to expect for other countries like Canada to look at the experience and see if it has improved things.”

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

What does your Canada look like?

What is your favourite place in Canada? Is it the street you grew up on, the place where you shared your first kiss, or that secret spot you visit to get away from the hustle and bustle of life? We want to know.

To mark the country's 150th birthday, Metro is launching 150 Postcards, where you get to share your favourite piece of Canada with your friends, neighbours and fellow Canadians. Starting Feb. 1, we will feature one reader's submission each day in Metro editions across the country, on Metronews.ca and our 150postcards Instagram page. On the Friday before the Canada Day long weekend, the most popular postcards we receive will be printed in Metro. METRO

GET INVOLVED

Send us a photo of your favourite place in Canada along with 25 to 50 words about why that place is special to you. You can email us at scene@metronews.ca or post to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #150canada.

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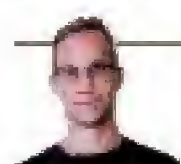


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NETHERLANDS

Dutch show skewers Trump in comedy video



Andrew Fifield
Metro|Toronto

Satirical news shows like Last Week Tonight and The Daily Show have spread across the world, and a lot of them are licking their chops about the Trump Administration.

So congratulations to the Dutch weekly Zondag met Lubach (Sunday with Lubach) for scoring the first global hit

with their shot at the White House in the form of a fake tourism video.

After poking fun at the president's proclivities and rather distinct speech, the bit takes a sharp inward turn to comment on the issues the Netherlands faces at home, such as the "scandalous tradition of Black Pete"

However, it's not all teasing and jabs and the video takes us to a much more conciliatory conclusion.



Zondag met Lubach (Sunday with Lubach) scored the first global hit with their shot at the White House in the form of a fake tourism video. YOUTUBE.COM

"We've got a great, great, great dependency on the United States. It's huge," the faux Trump narrator says. "If you screw NATO, you're going to make our problems great again. They're going to be huge, they're going to be enormous. It's true. Please don't."

VIDEO ON THE
METRO APP

President Trump: The words still shock

Even now, the words retain a dystopian tinge.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
From the U.S.



Each day, now, waking up and turning on the radio, two words float out: "President Trump." They're tossed in among the weather by a voice that sounds not at all surprised to utter the phrase.

But I remain shocked. Not electric shocked: I've been awake these past months, after all. Normalization — the fear of the left — and the human urge to accept what you see has downgraded the feeling to a static jolt. A mere flick to the brain.

"Oh, right," I think. "President Trump." Then the newscast goes on, and a smorgasbord of campaign promises and knee-jerk presidential directives come tumbling out of the presenters' measured voices.

One day, Trump is picking a fight with the media over his lies about crowd sizes at his inauguration while simultaneously disrespecting murdered CIA agents, the next he's cutting international and national funding for women's health in a nod to anti-abortion extremists. Quietly, his administration has wiped climate change from the White House website and muzzled Environmental Protection Agency and National Parks staff. He's ordered the wall to be built, and a ban on Syrian refugees, among others, is in the works. He's considering withholding funding from "sanctuary cities" which help illegal immigrants; he's launching an investigation to baseless and disproven claims of massive voter fraud. He might even send federal law enforcement into Chicago to deal with gun crime. Meanwhile, GOP

leadership is putting up a mostly unified front. Business leaders are getting in line, meeting with the new president to secure their spot on his good list, lest he sic his Twitter account on them.

Reporters are rushing to keep up on all fronts, with Trump's pronouncement that torture is effective and his family's new \$200,000 Mar-a-Lago membership fee, which doubled this month.

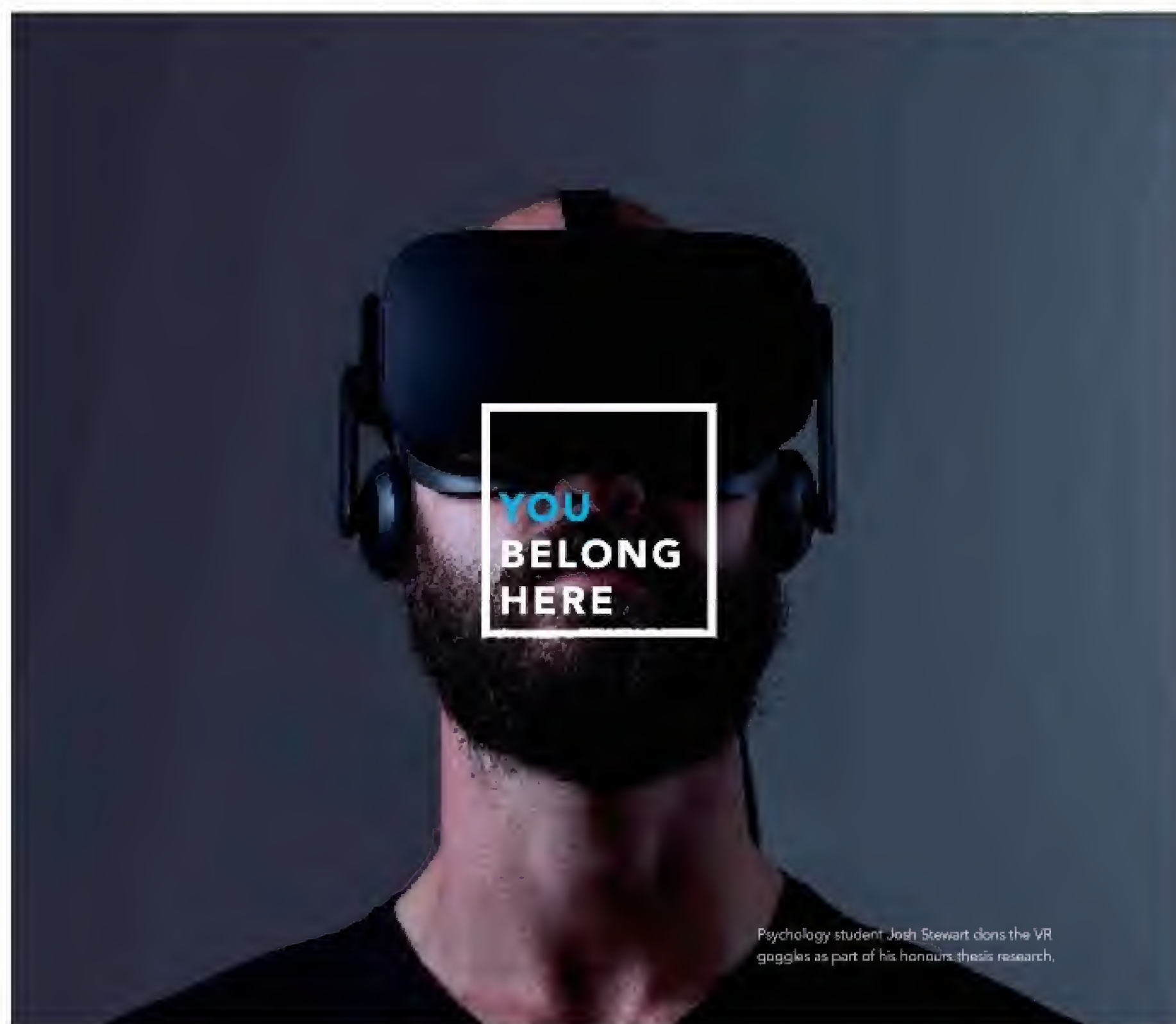
"It's chaos," one reporter tweeted.

Or it's the trenches. It turns out Trump was both serious and literal in his campaign. His whims will be orders. His grievances wielded with the weight of the presidency. He was not playing the bombastic, feuding egomaniac for votes. The reality show is the morning news.

When I hear "President Trump," as I'm pouring my coffee, it retains its dystopian tinge. I wonder if this is how people felt in other times of upheaval, going about their morning routines, for example, while the world teetered on nuclear war. There is a dissonance between the normality of the life you've been living, and the political reality into which you've been plunged.

The steady voice of news anchors you know, the work of writers you've come to rely on offer some solace. People you trust are keeping track, countering lies, investigating, analysing. Even the civil service, unused to being exploited for such deeply personal and ideological ends, is acting out, leaking memos to the press and launching rogue Twitter accounts.

It is a luxury, and a great one, that up until this week my mornings have been largely peaceful. I am a novice in fear, waking up to Trump.



Psychology student Josh Stewart dons the VR goggles as part of his honours thesis research.

At the intersection of psychology and technology

Through his research, Associate Professor Tony Chaston is changing perceptions of how VR experiences can reduce anxiety — and possibly pain — in hospital patients. In the classroom, he's changing students' perspective on what hands-on learning means in psychology.

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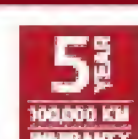
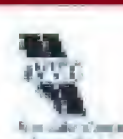
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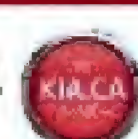
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The Power to Surprise

Canada not getting its share of the drama

The first week of Donald Trump's presidency promised Canada two bridges, one oil pipeline and a set of locks. Mexico got a wall.

America's two neighbours had vastly different experiences in Week 1 of the reality-TV-star's presidency - Canada away from the spotlight, quietly hoping for the best, while Mexico featured in tension-filled plot twists.

In just a few hours Thursday, Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto cancelled a

planned trip to the U.S., and also promised to use his country's 50 diplomatic buildings located on American soil to help migrants.

Then the White House appeared to retaliate with the threat of a 20-per-cent tariff on Mexican products. Trump made sure to point out, for the record, that he'd also decided to cancel the meeting.

"Unless Mexico is going to treat the United States fairly, with respect, meeting (Peña Nieto) would be fruitless,"

Trump told a gathering of Republican lawmakers.

"I want to go a different route. We have no choice."

An aide later said Trump is speaking to Congress about a 20-per-cent tax on Mexican imports that would collect \$10 billion per year and pay for Trump's promised wall with Mexico: "That's really going to provide the funding," said spokesman Sean Spicer.

Then he reportedly walked it back. According to NBC, Spicer later clarified that it

was just one idea among several. Republican lawmakers cheered Trump but sat silent as he discussed the tiff with Mexico.

Tensions escalated mid-week.

It started with the president initiating the construction of a border wall and toughening immigration rules in an executive order titled, "Border Security And Immigration Enforcement Improvements."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto cancelled his visit to the U.S. over a debate with Donald Trump on who will pay for the border wall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS & APPI/GETTY IMAGES

U.S., Mexico battle over border wall

POLITICS

Nieto cancels trip as Trump ratchets up the rhetoric

President Donald Trump called on fellow Republicans to help him enact "great and lasting change" at a party retreat Thursday but offered few details. Later his spokesman said the president will seek a 20 per cent tax on Mexican imports to pay for a proposed border wall.

The president was greeted by cheers as he took the stage in a hotel ballroom, telling senators and House members, "This Congress is going to be the busiest Congress in decades - maybe ever."

He addressed lawmakers shortly after Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto cancelled a trip to Washington next week for his first meeting with the new president due to their disagreement over which of their countries would pay to build Trump's promised wall on the border between them.

The wall is part of Trump's plan to halt illegal immigration to the U.S., and he has long said that Mexico will pay. Peña Nieto insists his country will not.

On the flight back to Washington, White House spokesman Sean Spicer told reporters travelling with the president that

Trump will seek to impose a 20 per cent tax on Mexican imports to pay for the wall. Congressional approval would be needed for such a step.

But then later, at the White House, Spicer tried to take back his earlier comments by saying the 20 per cent tax is one of several options under consideration and Trump hasn't settled on it.

In Trump's remarks to lawmakers, he cast the cancellation of his engagement with Peña Nieto as a mutual decision, saying they had "agreed to cancel our planned meeting." Trump had tweeted early Thursday that "it would be better to cancel the upcoming meeting" given Peña Nieto's unwillingness to pay for the border wall.

A 20 per cent tariff would represent a huge tax increase on imports to the U.S., raising the likelihood of costs being passed on to consumers. Half of all non-agricultural goods enter the U.S. duty free, according to the office of the U.S. Trade Representative. The other half face import tariffs averaging two per cent.

Mexico is one of America's biggest trade partners, and the U.S. is the No. 1 buyer from that country, accounting for about 80 per cent of Mexican exports. A complete rupture in ties could be damaging to the U.S. economy and disastrous for Mexico's. And major harm to Mexico's economy would surely spur more people to risk deportation.

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When you're photobombed by a shark while out surfing

WILDLIFE

10-year-old's unusual experience in Australia

A 10-year-old surfer has had a close encounter with a photobombing shark that shared a wave with him off an Australian beach.

Chris Hasson said Thursday that he was taking photos of his son Eden riding a wave off Samurai Beach at Port Stephens, 180 kilometres north of Sydney, on Tuesday when something unexpected and indistinct caught his eye.

He discovered he had photographed the face of a twisting shark just below the surface with his son on an apparent collision course. "I saw the second photo and (thought) — no way," Hasson said. "I quickly called him in and whistled."

"He (Eden) saw a shape in

the wave and thought it was seaweed and felt something as he went over the top — he got his leg rope caught on something — but he thought nothing of it until he saw the photo," Hasson said.

James Cook University shark researcher Andrew Chin said the photographed shark was possibly a small great white.

"From the angle, it looks like the shark was spooked and is rolling away from the board to escape it," Chin said. "There is no way that this is a hunting approach."

Port Stephens is on the northern coast of New South Wales state which has experienced an extraordinary increase in shark attacks since a Japanese tourist was killed by a great white in early 2015.

Hasson said he was back in the surf with Eden and his siblings, aged 12 and 5, on Wednesday to enjoy the final week of the school summer vacation.

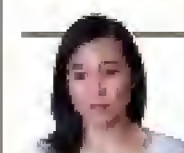
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Chris Hasson's son, Eden, surfs near what is believed to be a great white shark at Samurai Beach in Port Stephens, Australia. COURTESY CHRIS HASSON VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CATASTROPHE

Doomsday Clock ticks closer to midnight



Irene Kuan
Metro | Toronto

The Doomsday Clock has moved 30 seconds closer to midnight, meaning the world is just two and a half minutes from the point of existential catastrophe.

In a statement released Thursday, The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists said although the decision to adjust the symbolic clock is often based on examining long-term threats to humanity, this year, the actions and statements of one person — Donald Trump — and the rise in 'strident nationalism' became a major driving factor in the board's decisions.

The board statement said although Trump has only been president for a matter of days, his actions and statements on nuclear weapons and dismissal of scientific claims about the global threat of climate change in the past year were enough for them to move the clock forward by half a minute. It's a jump the board has never made in its 70 year history.

As well, they expressed concern over Trump's "ill-considered" comments about expanding the U.S. nuclear arsenal, lack of openness to expert advice related to international security, and questionable cabinet nominations.

This is the closest to midnight the clock has been since the Cold War in the 1950s, when the U.S. and Soviet Union were testing hydrogen bombs.

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GAMBIA

Throng cheer new president's return

President Adama Barrow returned triumphantly to Gambia on Thursday, nearly two months after winning an election disputed by the country's longtime dictator, to the cheers of hundreds of thousands who jammed the roads in welcome.

"That's my president!" the

crowds cried, eager to see Barrow fulfil the promise of democratic reforms and newfound freedoms in this tiny West African nation. Barrow had flown to Banjul from Senegal, where he had waited for Jammeh to leave Gambia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WHO'S RIGHT? INSIDE THE SUGAR WARS

What is making us fat? The reasons for the obesity epidemic are still a matter of debate, even among experts. It's really hard to study the long-term effects of a given diet. Fat was once nutrition enemy number one, but now some critics are taking aim at sugar. Here are three different views.

What's insulin resistance?

You can think of the hormone insulin as a key that unlocks fat and muscle cells. Your body converts food into simple sugars. When you eat, your blood sugar spikes, and your pancreas releases insulin. Insulin brings your blood sugar down by encouraging muscle cells to absorb sugar and use it for energy, and fat cells to absorb sugar and store it as fat. If you have insulin resistance, you've built up a bit of a tolerance to insulin. You need to secrete more of it in order to have the same effect of your cells, making it harder to keep your blood sugar under control. Some experts, not all, believe insulin resistance is a major factor driving many chronic diseases, including obesity.

The sugar-wary doctor

Dr. Khosrow Adeli, head of clinical biochemistry, SickKids



A little bit of sugar is important. It makes food taste good. But there is no question, from dozens of studies in humans and animals, that sugar, and particularly fructose, causes insulin resistance. When you develop insulin resistance, it can turn into a number of chronic conditions, including obesity and Type II diabetes. Too much fructose also causes high blood pressure and fatty liver disease. And the effects tend to be worse if you're also eating a lot of fat and other carbohydrates.

Fructose and sugar are a problem not just because of all the calories they contain. If you compare them to calories from, say, fat, the fructose calories are much more harmful. **Bottom Line:** Along with lack of exercise and overeating, sugar, and especially fructose, is one of the main reasons for our obesity epidemic. Adults should cap fructose intake at 50 g per day.

The crusading journalist

Gary Taubes, author, The Case Against Sugar



For the past century or so, the worst we've said about sugar is that it's empty calories. The idea was that you could exercise it away and balance it by eating less of other things. That is naïve. There's a significant amount of evidence that sugar is a fundamental cause of the obesity and diabetes epidemics worldwide. Something in our diet and lifestyle is causing it, and sugar should be the prime suspect. We don't say **too much** smoking causes lung cancer. We say smoking

causes lung cancer. If I'm right, and I clearly think and hope I am, doctors are going to be telling you sugar is killing you, don't eat it. **Bottom line:** Sugar kills; minimize your intake.

The skeptical scientist

Dr. David C.W. Lau, professor, University of Calgary



Gary Taubes's ideas are oversimplified. I've been doing research on obesity for a long time, so I'm very familiar with the arguments about sugar and insulin resistance. We develop insulin resistance as we gain more body fat. That is the body's natural defence mechanism to stop you from gaining more fat. It's one reason we tend to stay at a constant weight. But you usually won't become insulin resistant to the point that insulin doesn't work, unless you are prone to developing

Type 2 diabetes. **Bottom line:** The amounts of carbs, fat, or other major nutrients in your diet don't matter as much as excess calories do. That's what causes weight gain.

Your week in science



MAY WARREN/METRO

SCIENTISTS MARCH

As a U.S. administration steeped in climate-change denial and other anti-science views takes power, scientists are planning to storm Washington, D.C. and demand evidence-based policy — after peer review of course.

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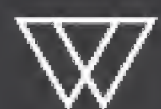
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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

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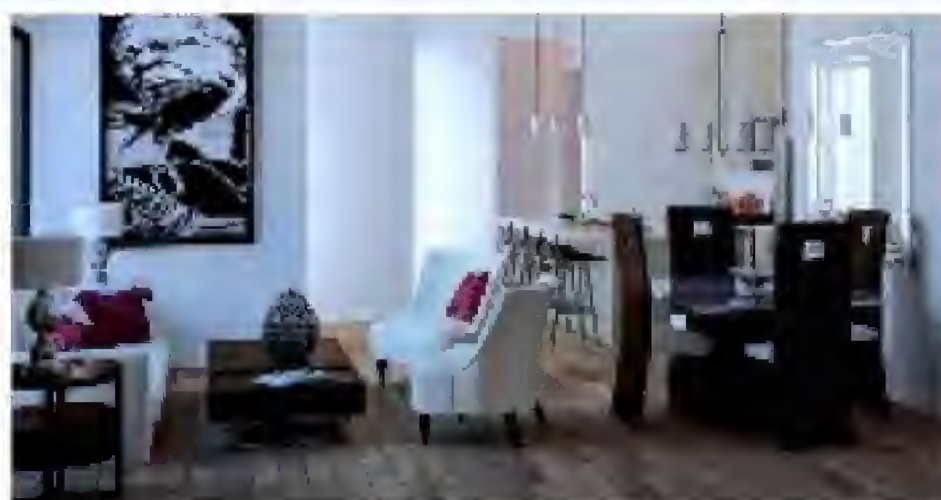
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Milla Jovovich returns to the big screen for the seventh, and possibly last, chapter of the Resident Evil film franchise. CONTRIBUTED

Resident Evil's teaching moment

ACTION HORROR

The franchise is a big money maker despite harsh ratings

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Since 2002 Milla Jovovich has played a genetically altered zombie fighter with telekinetic powers in six Resident Evil films.

Like the undead fleshbags who populate these based-on-a-videogame movies, you can't seem to kill this franchise, although the title of this weekend's Resident Evil: The Final Chapter

seems to indicate the end is near.

But just because the Resident Evil movies aren't Shakespeare doesn't mean we can't learn something from them. Here's what I took away from Jovovich and Company in the last thirteen years:

1. The undead have really, really bad aim.
2. No matter what stunt she has just performed, whether it's plummeting nineteen stories down an abandoned mine shaft, or battling legions of bad guys, Milla's hair will, at most, only look slightly tousled, as if Vidal Sassoon had just finished running his magic fingers through her locks.
3. The amount of rainfall in the

future makes Vancouver look arid.

4. To act in one of these movies you must perfect one of two facial expressions: a. steely determination, or b. uncontrolled rage (which can be alternated with a sadistic smile if necessary).

5. Characters will say, "What the hell is going on here?" when it is quite clear what the heck is going on.

6. Most of the people to survive the deadly plague that destroyed most of humanity look like Abercrombie & Fitch pinups.

7. Why take the stairs when you can drive a Rolls Royce down an escalator?

So there you have it — lessons learned.

Despite legendary director Jean-Luc Godard's claim that, "All you need for a movie is a gun and a girl," both of which are amply

on display in the Resident Evil movies, they still feel more like a videogame projected on a big screen than a movie.

But who cares what I or other film critics think? These movies have been phenomenally successful and for over a decade have proven to be critic-proof. Roger Ebert placed Resident Evil on his most hated films list in 2005 and called its sequel, "an utterly meaningless waste of time," adding, "Parents: If you encounter teenagers who say they liked this movie, do not let them date your children."

Leonard Maltin added to the pile on calling Resident Evil: Apocalypse "tiresome" while Dark Horizons said the third movie, Afterlife was, "perhaps the first 3D motion picture to simulate the experience of watch-

ing paint dry," and yet the splatter flick went on to gross \$300 million dollars worldwide.

Critics aside, others in the film biz love the movies. Avatar director James Cameron called Resident Evil his biggest guilty pleasure and the Ontario Media Development Corporation acknowledged the Toronto-shot Afterlife as the most successful production in Canadian feature film history.

Bottom line is that in total, the series has grossed almost \$1 billion — a feat recognized by the Guinness World Records Gamer's Edition who called the Resident Evil films "the most successful movie series to be based on a video game," awarding them with the record for Most Live-Action Film Adaptations of a Video Game.



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Gold ★★
Trespass Against Us ★★
The Red Turtle ★★★★★
Toni Erdmann ★★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS

★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
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A flashy blond in Bre-X gold scandal

INTERVIEW

Even a gaudy hairdo was fine for Bryce Dallas Howard

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



It wasn't until Bryce Dallas Howard saw herself in a crazy permed wig that she truly found her character for the new movie *Gold*.

"You have to kind of see it to understand who that person is," admitted the 35-year-old star about trying on gaudy hairdos to unearth her character.

"It's a little punny, but that's when I got to try on different versions of her. Eventually we landed on curly-haired, big-boobed and clothes that were a size too tight for her."

Loosely paralleling the Canadian-based Bre-X scandal of the '90s, *Gold* excavates the account of a flighty prospector (played by a balding, chubby Matthew McConaughey) whose incredible Indonesian gold strike dupes thousands of investors out of millions of dollars — until the fortune isn't what it appears to be.

Playing the obsessed tycoon's whip-smart girlfriend, Howard was shocked to learn the incredible twists of the real swindle.

"My character was invented so it wasn't really something that was a big part of my preparation. Even now I'm learning more details," laughed Howard, of the adaptation that relocates the action from Alberta to

MOVIES

Netflix changing the game for entertainers

"When I was younger, the gravy train of the movie business drove me bananas," Bryce Dallas Howard said of the changing film scene. "There's like a democratization of entertainment happening with Netflix and the cream rising to the top — it's a great time to be a storyteller."

Reno, Nev. "It's so bizarre to me that the story that it's based on took place in Canada; it feels like such a specifically American story because this story represents the potentials and evils of capitalism."

Howard's own tale is certainly one that has been nothing but blessed by potential.

Having set out in Hollywood in 2004, the daughter of legendary filmmaker Ron Howard may have hit early pay dirt with hits like *The Village* and *Spider-Man 3*, but the real treasure has only now arrived by balancing big-budget blockbusters like *Jurassic World* and quiet personal downtime.

"I'm more excited about stuff I'm getting to do than I've ever been," said Howard, currently preparing for the forthcoming *Jurassic World* sequel.

"But I've never lost my privacy, never had a massive change in lifestyle. I've been able to be home for long stretches of time with having kids (and) the fact that I've gotten to go back to working again is not something I take for granted."



Bryce Dallas Howard and Matthew McConaughey in a scene from *Gold*. SUBMITTED

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VIDEO GAMES

'Apocalypse Now' video game on tap



Coppola THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Francis Ford Coppola wants to make an *Apocalypse Now* video game and he's hoping fans will help pay for it.

The director has launched a Kickstarter campaign to raise \$900,000 for what he

says will be an "immersive, psychedelic horror role-playing game" based on his classic 1979 Vietnam War film.

In a message on the crowdfunding site, Coppola said he wanted to experiment with a new platform and bring *Apocalypse Now* to a new generation.

Coppola said video game publishers wouldn't provide him the artistic freedom he's seeking, comparing them to risk-free Hollywood movie studios.

He said the game will put you in the middle of the war, but the object is not to be killed rather than to kill.

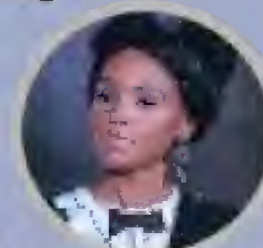
Coppola is targeting to finish it by fall 2020.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FILM BRIEFS

Recognizing talent

Janelle Monae, Issa Rae, Aja Naomi King and Yara Shahidi will



be honoured at Essence magazine's 10th annual Black Women in Hollywood Awards.

The magazine announced Thursday that it will recognize Hollywood's Next Generation at a gala dinner in the days leading up to the Oscars. The Awards will be held Feb. 23 at the Beverly Wilshire.

Past honorees include Oprah Winfrey, Viola Davis, Ava DuVernay, Halle Berry, Taraji P. Henson, Lupita Nyong'o and Octavia Spencer. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Castaway on a dream

The Red Turtle combines Japanese ghost stories and European narrative

Peter Howell/Torstar News Service

AWESOME AWARDS

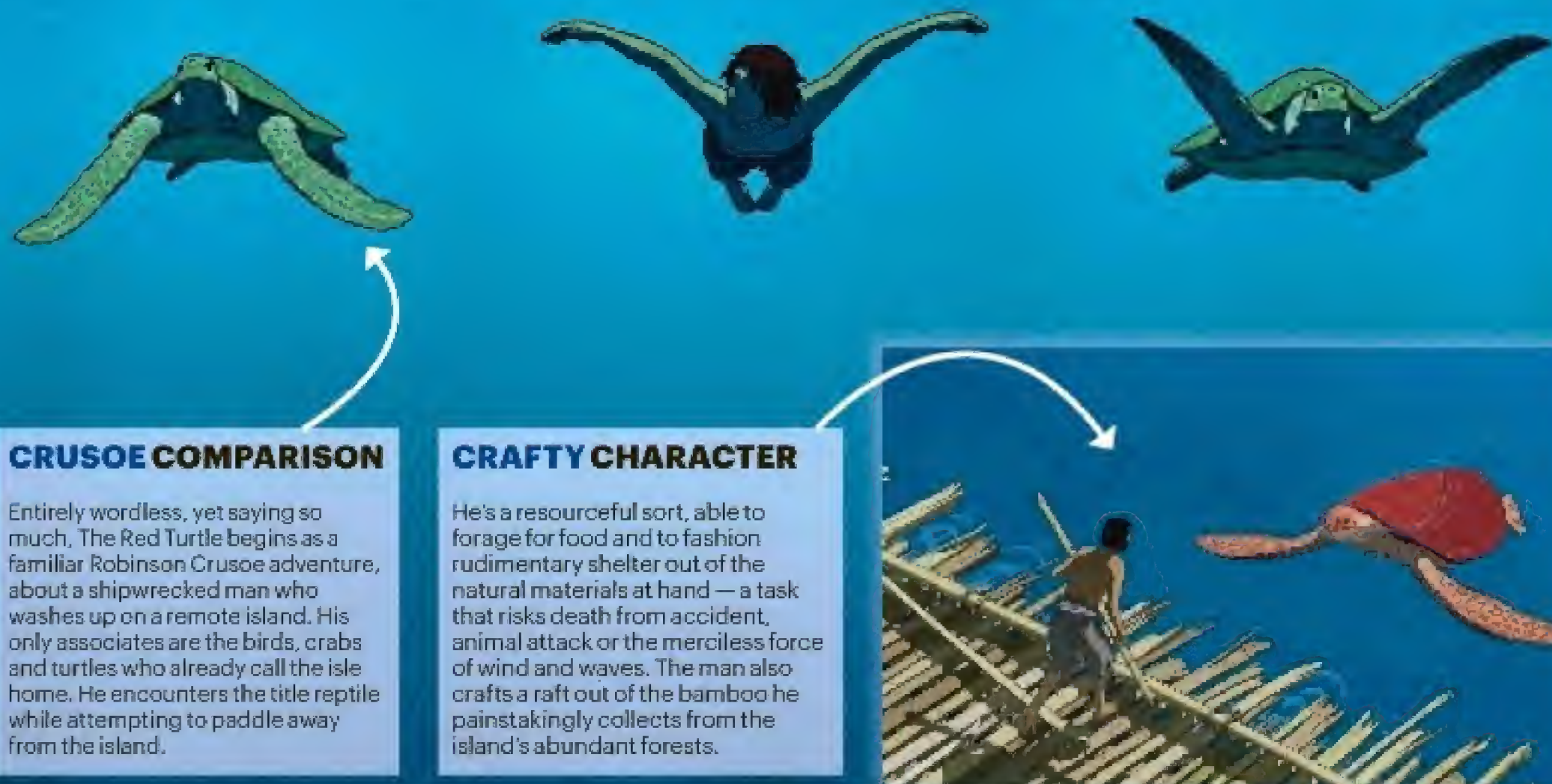
This symbol-laden fable by Dutch-British writer/director Michael Dudok de Wit is nominated for an Oscar for best animated feature. He previously won an Academy Award in 2001 for the animated short, Father and Daughter. The stunning, pastel-shaded film is co-produced by Tokyo-based anime giant, Studio Ghibli.

CRUSOE COMPARISON

Entirely wordless, yet saying so much, The Red Turtle begins as a familiar Robinson Crusoe adventure, about a shipwrecked man who washes up on a remote island. His only associates are the birds, crabs and turtles who already call the isle home. He encounters the title reptile while attempting to paddle away from the island.

CRAFTY CHARACTER

He's a resourceful sort, able to forage for food and to fashion rudimentary shelter out of the natural materials at hand — a task that risks death from accident, animal attack or the merciless force of wind and waves. The man also crafts a raft out of the bamboo he painstakingly collects from the island's abundant forests.



McConaissance reaches limit

The Reformation toppled the Renaissance but the decline of the McConaissance is harder to delineate.

It was probably inevitable that Matthew McConaughey's bold rebirth — that terrific run of True Detective, Magic Mike, The Wolf of Wall Street, Interstellar, Mud and Dallas Buyers Club — would dissipate. Could it have been those Lincoln ads that signalled the end to his grand second act?

In any case, the woefully misguided Gold confirms that the McConaissance, wonderful as it was, is over. The quality of the material isn't holding up.

Gold, directed by Stephen Gaghan (Syriana), is a fictionalized account of the notorious Bre-X Minerals swindle of the 1990s. Gaghan and co-writers Patrick Massett and John Zinman have extrapolated the tale and, in doing so, distorted it beyond both recognition and

plausibility.

McConaughey, however, is not one to ever look lost. He pours himself into Wells, a good-natured, potbellied huckster with a receding hairline. But Gold proves that even for McConaughey, there are limits.

So instead of seeing Gold, go back and watch his cocaine-sniffing, chest-thumping scene in The Wolf of Wall Street. Now that was pure 24-karat stuff.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Matthew McConaughey, left, and Edgar Ramirez star in Gold. THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY VIA AP

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Two features of masterful horror

MOVIES

Blind Sun and Dearest Sister are creepy good

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Joyce A. Nashawati's pre-apocalyptic film *Blind Sun* sets xenophobia and alienation against the sunny backdrop of Athens, Greece. *Dearest Sister* is Mattie Do's story of Laotian lottery ghosts and communication with the dead.

They're two very different films but are bonded by the director's shared love of the horror genre, their global outlook and the streaming source Shudder, which will feature both films exclusively in Canada.

"I always adored genre films and watched them closely," says Nashawati on the line from Tokyo where she is researching her second film. "Films that are not totally subjected to realism; that play



Dearest Sister, starring Vilouna Phetmany, was directed by Mattie Do — the first female Laotian director to make a full-length feature. CONTRIBUTED

with what cinema can do with the imaginary. Also, because they come from darkness, I think they play with the con-

science of the spectator. They give and take things, which is kind of playful."

Mattie Do, the first female

Laotian director to make a full-length feature, was born in Los Angeles, but now lives in a country that didn't even have movie theatres when she moved there in 2010.

She admits "our film growth is rocky," but adds, "people outside may see it as challenging to work in a developing country with no infrastructure but at the same time no one here tells me what stories I have to make. When I walk into the Department of Cinema, they know who I am because we have so few filmmakers in the country but it is easy for us to sit down and have a very adult discussion. Whereas if I was facing down some board of directors I might not be able to have the creative control I do here."

A global perspective comes naturally to Nashawati who grew up between Beirut, Accra, Kuwait and Athens.

"My past was very global without being a choice," she says. "*Blind Sun* was made by someone who is Lebanese, with a French producer, you're watching it in Canada and we're now talking while I'm in Japan. This is the way things are today. It is exciting. It is interesting that it is (happening) when politics is going the opposite way and closing things."

The pair have very differ-



Blind Sun stars Laurene Brun (above), Ziad Bakri and Yannis Stankoglou. CONTRIBUTED

ent styles — Do's film is a slow burner, Nashawati's a nightmarish thriller — but both agree modern technology has made it possible for them to turn their wild visions into movies.

Nashawati thinks it has never been easier to make films, even if you're "someone who is outside the circle of filmmaking or someone who isn't from a bourgeois background."

"If you adore filmmaking today," she says, "this is a great time to know you can actually make a film and it can be shown."

Do says foreign directors are given a big leg up by streaming services like Shudder who

are able to take chances on offbeat films.

"With Shudder I feel people can explore more different tastes and sub-genres of genres. If I described *Dearest Sister*, a Laos film about a lottery ghost and a girl who is going blind, would you pick up a ticket for that movie? Maybe not. But if you could sit in the comfort of your own home, pick up your remote or your computer and say, 'Look at all these movies. That's random, there's a Laos movie. What's Laos like?' You can just click on it. It feels like a safe investment."

Dearest Sister is streaming now. *Blind Sun* will be available Feb. 9.

“People outside may see it as challenging to work in a developing country with no infrastructure, but at the same time no one here tells me what stories I have to make. When I walk into the Department of Cinema, they know who I am.”

Mattie Do, filmmaker

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NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION AND SETTLEMENT APPROVAL HEARING

RCMP GENDER HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION CLASS ACTION

If you are a female or identified as a female and were an RCMP Regular Member (for purposes of this Proposed Settlement includes Regular Members, Special Constables, Cadets, Auxiliary Constables, Special Constable Members, and Reserve Members), Civilian Member or Public Service Employee (for purposes of this Proposed Settlement includes Temporary Civilian Employees) working within the RCMP, this notice may affect your legal rights. Please read it carefully.

Class action lawsuits were initiated alleging gender based harassment and discrimination within the RCMP. The Defendants, while not admitting liability, have agreed to a settlement of these lawsuits. A federal court class action has been certified on consent, conditional on court approval of the settlement.

Who is Eligible for the Proposed Settlement?

To be eligible to participate in the settlement, you must be a member of the class. The class is defined as:

Primary Class Members: female current and former living Regular Members, Civilian Members and Public Service Employees (who are appointed by the Commissioner of the RCMP under the delegated authority of the Public Service Commission pursuant to the Public Service Employment Act, R.S.C., 1985, c. P-32; amended S.C. 2003, c. 22, ss.12, 13) who worked within the RCMP during the Class Period who experienced and/or continue to experience gender and sexual orientation based harassment and discrimination while working in the RCMP during the Class Period, and who have not opted out or are not deemed to have opted out of the Class Action on or before the expiry of the Opt Out Period.

For the purposes of this Agreement "**Regular Members**" includes Regular Members, Special Constables, Cadets, Auxiliary Constables, Special Constable Members, and Reserve Members

For the purposes of this Agreement "**Public Service Employees**" includes Temporary Civilian Employees who, prior to 2014 were appointed under the now-repealed subsection 10(2) of the RCMP Act, R.S.C., 1985, c. R-10;

Secondary Class Members: All persons who have a derivative claim in accordance with applicable family law legislation arising from a family relationship with a member of the Primary Class.

If you **do not** wish to participate in the class action, you must deliver a signed Opt-Out Form to Class Counsel received or postmarked no later than March 29, 2017. If you do not exclude yourself by that date, you will be included in this lawsuit and will be bound by the court's judgement on the settlement. The Opt-Out Form can be obtained from Class Counsel at the address below. It is also available on Class Counsel's websites.

If you have an ongoing lawsuit with respect to gender or sexual orientation based harassment or discrimination in the RCMP, and you wish to participate in the proposed class action settlement, you must discontinue your lawsuit before March 29, 2017. If you do not, you will be deemed by s. 334.21(2) of the Federal Court Rules, SOR/98-106 to have opted out of the class action. Please contact your lawyer to discuss your options.

The Terms of the Proposed Settlement

The settlement contains numerous change initiatives directed at eliminating workplace harassment and discrimination in the RCMP. The settlement also provides compensation for members of the Primary Class who experienced gender or sexual orientation based harassment or discrimination while working in the RCMP during the Class Period. Compensation is available for Secondary Class Members where the Primary Class Member's Claim is assessed at either of the two highest severity levels.

You can obtain a copy of the settlement agreement and the applicable schedules by contacting Class Counsel at the address below. These documents are also available on Class Counsel's websites.

The Approval Hearing and Your Right to Participate

A motion to approve the settlement is scheduled to be heard on May 24, 2017 at 9:30 am at the Federal Court of Canada, Trial Division, in Toronto. Class Counsel will also ask the court to approve an award of fees and disbursements for their work in achieving the settlement.

If you agree with the proposed settlement, you do not have to do anything at this time. If the court approves the settlement, a notice will be published setting out the procedures for submitting a Claim.

If you disagree with the proposed settlement, you have the right to object. You may do so by delivering a letter to Class Counsel in advance of the hearing, which Class Counsel will then provide to the court. In your letter, you should provide your name, contact information, and a brief statement of the nature and reasons for your objection.

What are the Financial Consequences?

If the settlement is approved by the court and you have not opted out of the class action prior to the opt-out deadline, you will be bound by the terms of the settlement.

The defendants have agreed to pay Class Counsel's disbursements and are making a contribution toward class counsel fees. Class Counsel will request a further class counsel fee of 15% plus applicable sales tax payable from the compensation awarded to class members under the settlement. The award of class counsel fees is subject to court approval.

For More Information

For more information about the settlement, contact Class Counsel at:

Klein Lawyers LLP
Attn: Angela Bessflug
Suite 400-1385 West 8th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6H 3V9
Phone: (604) 874-7171 • Fax: (604) 874-7180

Kim Orr Barristers P.C.
Attn: Megan B. McPhee
19 Mercer Street, Suite 400
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Sundance film examines Tokyo's idol girl culture

DOCUMENTARY

Canada, U.K. funding used to be 'free of censorship'

"Yes, it's creepy," acknowledges writer-director Kyoko Miyake of the middle-aged men obsessively following anime-inspired J-pop female idols half their age — and younger — in her documentary *Tokyo Idols*.

Shot in Japan, the Canada-U.K. produced film had its world premiere at Sundance last Friday and will eventually air on Canada's Super Channel.

Some 10,000 idols are part of a \$1-billion annual industry in Japan, where looking "fresh" and "cute" is the goal. Usually under 20, the singer-dancers perform in fantasy costumes that echo schoolgirls, French maids and kittens.

The idols are getting progressively younger. One male fan praises his pre-teen idol crush

for being "underdeveloped." Another grey-haired man spends hours making glittery T-shirts to wear to shows by his favourite teen idol.

What would sound alarm bells in the West appears widely accepted.

Miyake follows 19-year-old Rio Hiragi, who fears she's coming close to her idol expiration date and campaigns relentlessly to stay on top. "I can't do this forever," she says.

Her mostly male fans — who call themselves Rio's brothers — are socially awkward types not comfortable spending time with women their own age.

Among them is 43-year-old Koji Yoshida, who drops thousands of dollars a year on idol concert tickets and meet-and-greet "handshake events."

These carefully timed 60-second meetings with the idols include only one physical interaction: a handshake. An everyday act in many countries, it has sexual undercurrents in Japan, said Miyake.

The fans say they feel more

“
Yes, it's creepy.
Kyoko Miyake on middle-aged men obsessively following idols half their age.

comfortable around the idols and are too shy to talk to grown women.

"I think those men feel somehow threatened by women of their own age," said Miyake, 40, a Peabody Award-winning filmmaker who left Japan at age 26 to study the history of English witchcraft at Oxford University.

Miyake doesn't pass judgment in *Tokyo Idols* about "this thing that's taken over the cultural scene," although she questions fans, idols and one performer's mother about the appropriateness of middle-aged men mooning over very young girls.

Miyake sought out Canadian and U.K. financing rather than Japanese money for the film, allowing her to make the movie her way and be "quite free of

censorship" in exploring the idol phenomenon.

While most men "play by the rules" when meeting idols, one of them 20-year-old Mayu Tomita, was stabbed repeatedly by a love-sick fan last May.

"This is a business based on illusion and misunderstanding and these guys are obsessive types, so some do get it wrong and could turn aggressive," Miyake said.

She hopes *Tokyo Idols* can start a conversation about why some men feel they can only relate to young girls "because in Japan, we are not talking to each other."

Miyake also understands the pressure young girls are under in Japan, a society where gender roles tend to the traditional.

"I grew up in Japan and I always felt awkward because I couldn't be cute or act cute and I felt very judged," Miyake said.

"I also tried to be cute. It took me a long time to realize that I didn't have to conform to this. It's very difficult to undo this process; it's very ingrained."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Rio Hiragi appears in a scene from *Tokyo Idols*, a film by Kyoko Miyake. The Canada-U.K. produced Sundance documentary looks at obsessive culture in Japan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO-SUNDANCE INSTITUTE-KYOKO MIYAKE

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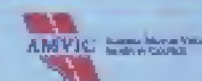
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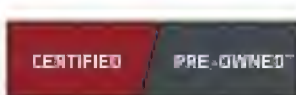
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Pinsent doc tracks life after brain surgery

MOVIES

Actor survived delirium, long hospital stays and physio

As he reflects on his past with a new documentary, Canadian acting treasure Gordon Pinsent is also firmly focused on the future, trying to make up for time he feels he lost due to health issues.

The 86-year-old Gander, N.L., native — who is the subject of *The River of My Dreams*, opening at the Ted Rogers Hot Docs Cinema in Toronto on Friday — has spent the past three years recovering from two surgeries for the chronic pain condition trigeminal neuralgia.

He was in hospital for about eight months in total, had a shunt put into his brain, went through physiotherapy, and suffered from scary periods of delirium.

It was “touch and go” at times, admitted the stage and screen star, noting he imagined terrifying scenarios in his delirium: of himself covered in blood; of himself dead, bent over the railing of a ship in the harbour of St. John’s; of an explosion at a function for Canadian actors.

“I’ve pretty well come through it all,” Pinsent said in a recent phone interview, noting he now works with a personal trainer to improve his balance.

“I know it’s not as perfect as it had been, which is too bad. I say too bad because I would have gone on and on and on in my career. ... So I’m not getting the full advantage of a complete career and I’m still waiting for certain things that I’d like to do. I’m pretty sure I’m happy from the standpoint of coming through all of that, but I’m still hungry for certain kinds of work.”

As *The River of My Dreams* by Oscar winner Brigitte Berman shows, the ever-affable star of *Away From Her* has al-

ways had a remarkable ability to create career opportunities for himself.

The youngest of six children, Pinsent charmed his way into many odd jobs before embarking on a storied acting career in dozens of film and TV projects — from *Due South* to *The Red Green Show* and *The Shipping News*.

Pinsent has also written fiction, poetry and screenplays.

He’s putting pen to paper again, this time documenting what he imagined during his delirium. He’s written about 40 pages although he’s not sure what will come of it.

“I’ve been writing for a long, long time and I’ve got boxes and boxes filled with stuff that I’m pretty sure will never be produced,” said Pinsent, who did voice work for the recent film *Two Lovers* and a Bear and received a Stratford Festival Legacy Award in September.

“So something tells me that when it’s all over for me, somebody might just pick it up and start reading through.”

One of his recent screenplays was picked up: the short film *Martin’s Hagge*, about a middle-aged writer (Paul Braunstein) who’s haunted by the personification of his anxiety and depression, played by Sheila McCarthy. Pinsent said he and the director, Penny Eizenga, are now considering turning it into a feature film.

Pinsent said he’s also painting and is interested in acting again, but it has to be a special role that has little to do with age. He might even write it himself.

“Basically what I need now, I think, would be one marvelous turning-point character,” he said. “Something that will take me down another road and continue to show the versatility that I think I have.”

The River of My Dreams: A Portrait of Gordon Pinsent will open in Calgary on March 30.

It will also screen at Ottawa’s National Arts Centre on Feb. 15.

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metroLIFE

39



Actor Shia LaBeouf was arrested in New York as he protested on live-stream camera. AP PHOTO/GETTY IMAGES

Shia's in jail for scratch at protest

ACTIVISM

Police say actor assaulted man on live online camera

Actor Shia LaBeouf was arrested early Thursday after he allegedly got into an altercation with another man outside a New York City museum where he has been chanting "He will not divide us" in front of a live camera since Donald Trump's inauguration.

Police said LaBeouf pulled the scarf of an unidentified 25-year-old man outside the Museum of the Moving Image in Queens, scratching his face in the process. They said he also pushed the man, who refused medical attention.

LaBeouf has spent the first few days of Trump's presidency swaying, dancing and repeating the phrase "He will not divide us" in front of a live camera outside the

museum. The livestream is for a participatory public art project LaBeouf and two collaborators intend to have running 24 hours a day for the next four years.

The camera went live the morning of the inauguration, along with a website inviting the public to show up and participate. LaBeouf has been a frequent, though not constant presence.

Technically, the project from LaBeouf and his performance art partners isn't about opposition to Trump. LaBeouf told The Associated Press in an interview conducted on Monday in front of the livestream camera.

"We're anti-division out here. Everyone's invited," LaBeouf said. "I'm just saying, 'Be nice to each other.'"

It's not immediately known what led to the alleged altercation Thursday morning.

LaBeouf faces a misdemeanor assault charge. It's unclear if he has an attorney who can comment.

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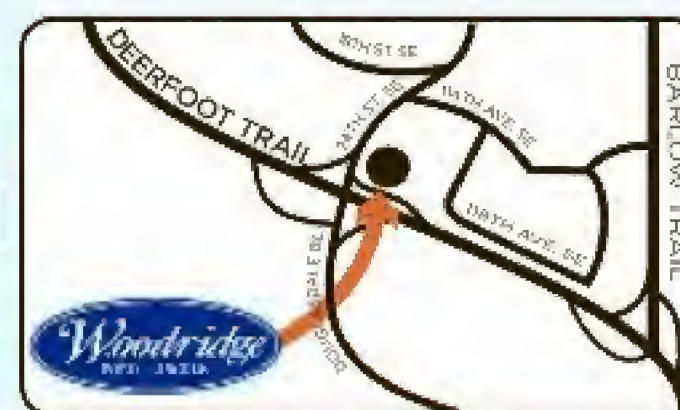
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Tribal love tale is an Oscar hopeful

INTERVIEW

Filmmakers stunned by high calibre of amateur cast

The premiere of *Tanna*, Australia's first-ever Oscar nominee for a foreign language film, was as far from Hollywood glamour as one can get. The guests gathered not in an opulent theatre, but in a cyclone-flattened village on a remote island. And the film's stars were hardly A-list actors; they had, in fact, never even acted before — or seen a movie.

For Australian directors Bentley Dean and Martin Butler, their film's evolution from a tiny production in the South Pacific to an Oscar contender for best foreign film is as thrilling as it is inconceivable. The tale of tribal love was shot on the island of Tanna in Vanuatu, in the Indigenous Nanyhal language, with an amateur cast of villagers.

"It was just fabulous news and a little bit hard to believe," Dean said after receiving word of the film's Oscar nod. "Given how it all started, I think it makes it a

bit more improbable."

The film's roots began 10 years ago, when Butler sent Dean to Tanna to work on a documentary. Dean fell in love with Tanna's lush landscape and rich culture and vowed to return.

A few years ago, he and Butler decided to approach the people living in the tiny village of Yakei to see if they would be interested in collaborating on a feature film. The idea was certainly novel to the tribe, who had never even seen a film. Though aware of the outside world, the community chooses to live like their ancestors, hunting with bows and arrows and eschewing modern conveniences like electricity.

The directors showed the villagers examples of movies on a laptop. The tribe loved the idea and quickly agreed to the project.

Dean wanted the film to be a collaborative effort in which the Yakei people could tell their own story. In 2014, he moved to the community with his family and lived there for seven months, absorbing everything he could about their history and culture. The experience was particularly exciting for his kids, who learned to hunt with bows and arrows and got to run around the sur-



Marie Wawa and Mungau Dain in a scene from the film, *Tanna*, which was nominated for an Oscar for best foreign language film. PHILIPPE PENEL/LIGHTYEAR ENTERTAINMENT VIA AP

rounding mountain valleys.

The villagers told Dean the true story of two lovers who, years before, found themselves caught in a tribal war over a traditional arranged marriage that threatened to split them apart. That story became the plot for *Tanna*.

The tribe speaks Nanyhal — a

language spoken by only a few thousand people worldwide. Luckily, a man from a neighbouring village who knew English agreed to serve as a translator.

Though none of the villagers had ever acted before, they managed to turn out performances so genuine they stunned the filmmakers.

"Trained actors have said to us that they're envious of the performances that they see," Dean said. "They're so truthful."

The directors promised the tribe they would be the first in the world to see the completed film. But shortly before the planned first screening, a cyclone tore across Vanuatu, flattening all

the houses in Yakei and ruining the crops. The filmmakers suggested they postpone the premiere, but the villagers insisted they come anyway.

And so Dean and Butler travelled back to Yakei, where the tribe had constructed a viewing screen by stringing a couple of sheets up to a giant banyan tree that had survived the storm. Dean set up a projector and everyone gathered to watch the story unfold. The villagers loved it so much, Dean said, the chiefs delivered a formal speech praising the film for reflecting the tribe's truth. While the directors had come to them with the idea for the film, the chiefs said, the tribe now considered *Tanna* their own.

And while the film's Oscar nomination and other accolades are thrilling, the best part of the experience for Dean was the connection he and his family made to a culture so different from their own.

"There's a saying there — the chiefs — that when you connect with an outsider, you build a road between one another," Dean said. "And there's a definite road between us now that will go on indefinitely." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Enjoy vision correction with an alternative to cataract surgery

Refractive Lens Exchange eye surgery is growing in popularity at the Gimbel Eye Centre in Calgary.

One of the reasons the surgery is growing in popularity is because with an aging population, it is important to look for ways to minimize reliance on prescription glasses for farsightedness, nearsightedness or astigmatism, according to Gregg Becker, Gimbel's chief operating officer.

"This is great news for patients who want to enjoy the benefits of vision correction without waiting for cataract surgery. They don't need to wait until they need cataract surgery," he says.

"The procedure can be done in advance of when cataract surgery would typically happen,



which eliminates the need for that surgery as time passes. In Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE), the natural lens is replaced with an artificial implant (as with cataract surgery); however, there is no waiting list for this procedure as it is not covered by Alberta Health Care."

Patients

between the ages of 45 to 75 are often good candidates for RLE, Becker adds.

"We have many clients who have wanted to get rid of their glasses for years, but were not aware this is an option."

"The process is especially good for patients with active lifestyles who want to eliminate or minimize the need for glasses in their day to day activities."

‘It cannot be nice to be the only woman when you’re in the business world’



Actor Sandra Huller stars as Ines in the film Toni Erdmann. She plays a successful businesswoman navigating a sexist work environment. The movie has been nominated for an Oscar for best foreign language film. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ACADEMY AWARDS

A three-hour German comedy? Yes, it's worth it

Asking viewers to sit through a three-hour German comedy is a gamble, yet writer-director Maren Ade was open to the risk with *Toni Erdmann*.

The unconventional project captured the hearts of Oscar voters, who nominated it for best foreign language film on Tuesday.

Critical praise began building when it debuted at last year's Cannes Film Festival and by the end of the year, Toni Erdmann was splashed across many best of 2016 lists.

Ade didn't necessarily see any of this coming when she began writing the story of a father's damaged relationship with his grown daughter.

Her film begins with him trying to rekindle their connection through practical jokes that backfire almost every time.

It's an exercise in humility and hilarity all at once.

Toni Erdmann opens in most Canadian markets next month.

Ade spoke with The Canadian Press at September's Toronto International Film Festival about her unconventional movie and how Whitney Houston inspired an unforgettable scene.

You've got a praiseworthy film here for sure, but some audiences might be reluctant to brave a comedy that runs a little short of three hours. How did you justify to yourself that Toni Erdmann deserved its lengthy runtime?

I didn't think about the length when writing the script, but with the final film, (I thought,) 'Ah, it's maybe long, but it's rolling along.' So it worked.

I also found during editing that you need a moment when nothing happens. The payoff is much better—and the tension higher—when you're asking yourself what's coming next. I thought it was the most intense version at [its current] length.

Did you ever face pressure to chop it down?

We discussed it before Cannes. I tried to shorten it but (when I did) it felt longer, in a way. I could've never cut out enough that it was two hours. I took out about 10 minutes (at one point).

but the missing 10 minutes made it less complex.

You've mentioned the extensive amount of research you put into your characters, particularly the father, to help yourself understand why he would continue to be motivated by his futile efforts to win over his daughter. Where did you look for inspiration?

I researched comedians and became a big fan of Andy Kaufman. I probably spent a month on YouTube watching videos. My partner was always asking me, "Are you working?" His last name "Erdmann" in German means "Earth Man." While "Toni" is a show-off name, the last name "Erdmann" is a downer. I just found it funny.

How about his daughter, Inis, who's a successful businesswoman navigating a sexist work environment?

I talked a lot to women. It cannot be nice to be the only woman when you're in the business world. What I found is a lot of them became like their male colleagues.

They make the same jokes about the cute assistant. But it would come to a point where

they were not invited anymore into certain situations [with their male colleagues] — it was like a secret line. The higher they would climb the thinner the air would become. So this is the situation we put Inis into (asking), "How free is she?" in general, but also how free she is as a woman.

One of the film's most powerful moments is when lead actress Sandra Huller — playing Inis — grabs a karaoke microphone to belt out Whitney Houston's torch song "Greatest Love of All." It's so rare to see comedy and humanity converge in the same moment. How did you pick that song?

It's Whitney Houston. I wanted (to entertain the possibility) that maybe she was singing it with her father when she was a young girl. We had it in mind that maybe she forced him to play it again and again, at that time, and now he's coming (back) with it.

Do you think there's a sequel in this story? A generational family tale could have several more chapters, if you wanted.

For me, it's over.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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AMVIC



PROTEST ACTRESS BOYCOTTS OSCARS Iranian actress Taraneh Alidoosti, star of the Oscar-nominated *The Salesman*, says she won't attend the Academy Awards in protest of President Donald Trump's immigration policies. Alidoosti called plans for a temporary visa ban of Iranians "racist" in a Twitter message posted Thursday. A draft executive order obtained by The Associated Press showed Trump plans to suspend issuing visas for people from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria or Yemen for at least 30 days. **JOEL RYAN/AP FILE**



Roxane Gay, author of *Difficult Women* and *Grove Atlantic*, has withdrawn a planned book with Simon & Schuster over the company's deal with controversial pundit. **JAY GRABIEC**

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Author pulls book in protest

BOOKS

Roxane Gay drops publisher over far-right pundit's deal

Angered with her publisher for giving a platform to far-right commentator Milo Yiannopoulos, author Roxane Gay has withdrawn a planned book with Simon & Schuster.

Gay confirmed to The Associated Press on Wednesday that she will not be releasing *How to Be Heard* through Simon & Schuster's TED imprint, which had scheduled the book for 2018. Gay is known for such works as the essay collection *Bad Feminist* and the novel *An Untamed State*. TED, a partnership with the backers of TED talks, specializes in nonfiction books "long enough to fully explore a powerful idea yet designed to be read in a single sitting."

Gay said that Yiannopoulos, whose *Dangerous* comes out in March, had a right to express his views, but not to have a book deal with a major publisher.

"(H)e has, in some bizarre twist of fate, been afforded that privilege," she told BuzzFeed News. "So be it. I'm not interested in

doing business with a publisher willing to grant him that privilege. I am also fortunate enough to be in a position to make this decision. I recognize that other writers aren't and understand that completely."

Simon & Schuster did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Yiannopoulos' book set off a furious debate when it was announced last month. The Breitbart News editor is known for his vicious rhetoric about feminism, Islam and race among other subjects and was banned from Twitter last year after leading a harassment campaign against *Ghostbusters* star Leslie Jones. More than 100 Simon & Schuster writers have denounced the deal with the publisher's conservative Threshold Editions imprint, which has published books by President Donald Trump and former Vice-President Dick Cheney.

Earlier this week, CEO Carolyn Reidy sent a letter to Simon & Schuster authors saying that the publisher does not "condone" and would not release "hate speech." The controversy initially sent *Dangerous* to the top of Amazon's bestseller list. But interest has since slowed down and the book was No. 882 as of Wednesday evening.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Lili Reinhart and KJ Apa play Betty Cooper and Archie Andrews in *Riverdale*, the highly anticipated CW series, which premieres on Netflix Canada Jan. 27. The show is a glimpse into an alternate Archie universe, a kind of *Dawson's Creek* via *Twin Peaks*, set in Langley, British Columbia. CONTRIBUTED

An Archie universe full of real world problems

INTERVIEW

Riverdale puts darker, more adult spin on classic comic

In the town of Riverdale, Archie Andrews is brawnier than Moose Mason. Jughead is a cynic. Veronica has lost all her money. And Betty has serious mental health issues. And yes, there is a dead body.

This is not your father's Archie Andrews. But the highly-anticipated CW series, which premieres on Netflix Canada Jan. 27, is a glimpse into an alternate Archie universe—a kind of *Dawson's Creek* via *Twin Peaks*. And standing in for Riverdale is the town of Langley, B.C.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the show is produced by Greg Berlanti, the showrunner of teen soap opera *Dawson's Creek*, along with Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, Archie Entertainment's chief creative officer.

Riverdale stars New Zealander K.J. Apa as Archie, Cole Sprouse as Jughead, Camilla Mendes as Veronica Lodge and Luke Perry as Archie's father Fred Andrews.

Here, Cleveland, Ohio-born actress Lili Reinhart, who plays Betty Cooper, talks about the

darker, more adult vision for the show.

In the Archie Comics, Betty is typecast as the "good girl" who only has eyes for Archie. Your character is more nuanced than that.

In my discussions with first getting the role, I wanted to make sure this girl wasn't just the simple, sweet girl next door. There was so much more going on to her, we were just building these layers ... Betty struggles with mental health issues, with having anxiety and she actually goes through self-harm. She is a real person.

There seems to be a palpable vulnerability in the way you've portrayed Betty.

Yeah, I 100-percent resonate with that. I struggle ... I'm very open with my relationship with depression and anxiety and I channel that into Betty. There's so much pressure on young women these days and young men to perform a certain way, to know what you want to do after high school and to find a boyfriend, to have that first kiss, to have good grades, to have your s— together basically and we show that Betty certainly doesn't have herself put together on the inside.

What do you think the reaction is going to be to this Archie universe?

You know what? Some people are like ... "This is not Archie, this is not my Archie" and we're like OK, it's not your Archie, great, this is our version and not everyone is going to love it and we're totally aware, but not everyone has to love it.

Not everything is a sitcom and life certainly isn't that way most of the time, especially for young adults and relationships between mother and daughter, or son and father. I automatically was drawn to the darkness of it, and the mystery and the murder, but also just the characters are so deep and have real world problems, you know like one of our characters deals with poverty, and you know having a deadbeat dad and kind of having to take care of himself.

Did you read the comics growing up?

I didn't grow up in a household where people read comics. I had two sisters and none of them were into it and my dad never really was so I wasn't exactly introduced to that universe and I was Skype-ing with my friend when I first got the audition and I was

like, "Archie, was that a superhero?" I was so naive about it and he was like, "Archie, oh my God, are you making a show?" and he was so excited and I immediately started reading about Betty.

What was it like shooting in the (executive producer) Greg Berlanti world that Vancouver has become?

We film in Langley which is basically Riverdale. But it's kind of far from Vancouver, so we have a bit of a drive. But, we've all kind of had to pick up and move to a different country ... It's so nice that we all are such a close cast and I feel like we're very lucky to have that so we all live very close to each other, we all hang out on the weekends, we all car pool to work, we're like a little Archie family.

When you read the source material, who did you see yourself in? Are you a Veronica or a Betty?

No, I'm a Betty. I'm a Betty all the way, like honestly, I'm a Virgo, so I'm kind of a perfectionist and organized. I like to take control and kind of be the leader sometimes. I feel like that's my personality and so I'm really Betty.

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In *Trespass Against Us*, two-time Oscar nominee Michael Fassbender stars Chad Cutler, an illiterate outlaw living a nomadic existence with his wife and their kids in a banged-up trailer in the British countryside. CONTRIBUTED

Crime is a family affair in outlaw drama

ON DEMAND

Fassbender plays heir to criminal clan in new film

As heir to a criminal clan in *Trespass Against Us*, Michael Fassbender faces a far tougher task than outrunning the law: attempting to break free from the vice-like grip of his father.

The two-time Oscar nominee stars as Chad Cutler, an illiterate outlaw living a nomadic existence with his wife Kelly (Lyndsey Marshal) and their kids in a banged-up trailer in the British countryside.

As Chad seeks to establish a life and sense of normalcy for his family beyond the encampment, his domineering dad Colby (Brendan Gleeson) wants to ensure his son doesn't upset the established order. The fractious bond between the pair is symbolized onscreen with the matching gold keeper rings worn by Chad and Colby throughout the film.

"In the travelling community, that idea of family and blood — and that concept of blood is thicker than water — I mean, it's multiplied by 100 to what it is in normal communities," Fassbender said.

"Family is everything, and the honour of the family, so it's a very tight grip on Chad.... To break away from it is a big deal, and Colby is the king of the family in a way. Even though Chad is a strong and independently minded man himself, there is that sort of hold on him."

Colby enlists Chad to set out on a massive heist. The caper leads to a high-speed chase and manhunt which intensifies the law-enforcement spotlight on Chad, while he also faces mounting pressures and divided loyalties at home.

"(Chad) has his own family, and his concerns at this point

in his life is the future of his children and how they're best going to be equipped to handle the world," said Fassbender.

"They need to go to school and integrate to a certain level with the settled community. I think he's smart enough to realize that that's going to be an essential part of their well-being in terms of how they grow up."

"The days of Colby's belief system and what Chad went through as a child, it's changing rapidly. It's no longer the same world. It is that classic dilemma of being tied to his dad, but his priority in life is his kids."

Trespass Against Us marks the directorial debut of Adam Smith, an award-winning filmmaker known for his long-term collaboration with British electronic music duo the Chemical Brothers. Chemical Brothers member Tom Rowlands created the pulsing score for the film. The movie's story from screenwriter Alastair Siddons was inspired by the U.K.'s notorious Johnson gang.

Smith said he was interested in the film's multigenerational theme, particularly the challenges for both fathers and sons in breaking free from long-held roles pursuing independence.

"They often say anger is the voice of fear, and he gets quite angry at times, Colby. And I think he is terrified of losing Chad," Smith said. "He's invested all of his energy into his son, and I think a lot of parents would maybe relate to that."

"You kind of have to battle against letting a child be who they are rather than who you want them to be. A lot of parents don't want their children to leave, do they? ... I think (Colby) is really scared of Chad leaving. He'd be alone without the boy that he loves so much."

Trespass Against Us will be available on demand beginning Friday, and will play in select theatres in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa and Halifax.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



You kind of have to battle against letting a child be who they are rather than who you want them to be.

Director Adam Smith

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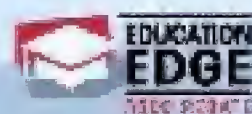


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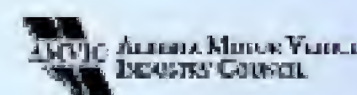
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5 ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES TO HAVE IN ECUADOR

With four distinct eco-systems, Ecuador is more than just a jumping-off point for the Galapagos. Exploring the interior delivers Andes mountain magic and Amazon jungle surprises. You can visit Ecuador all year round. January to May are the warmest months, but also the wettest. June to December tends to be cooler, and crowds are rare. **DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO**



1 Explore the capital DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

Quito is a series of mini-neighbourhoods, each with a different essence and identity. Old Town brims with historic buildings, churches and museums. La Marsical comes alive at five, with young locals and tourists spilling out of the bars and restaurants near Plaza Foch. Head over to Calle de la Ronda for an authentic Ecuadorian snack and a happy-hour two-for-one. Cabs cost next to nothing, so you can skip the too-busy bus.



2 Get sporty JODI BERNSTEIN/FOR METRO

Adventure sports abound in Baños in south-central Ecuador, a relaxing spa town best known for its paragliding, canyoneering and zip lining, as well as its picturesque parks, hilltop hikes and calming waters. Spring for a massage at one of the spas or pop into the local mineral baths for \$2, and do the hot-and-cold healing-water circuit.



DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

3 Hit the highlands

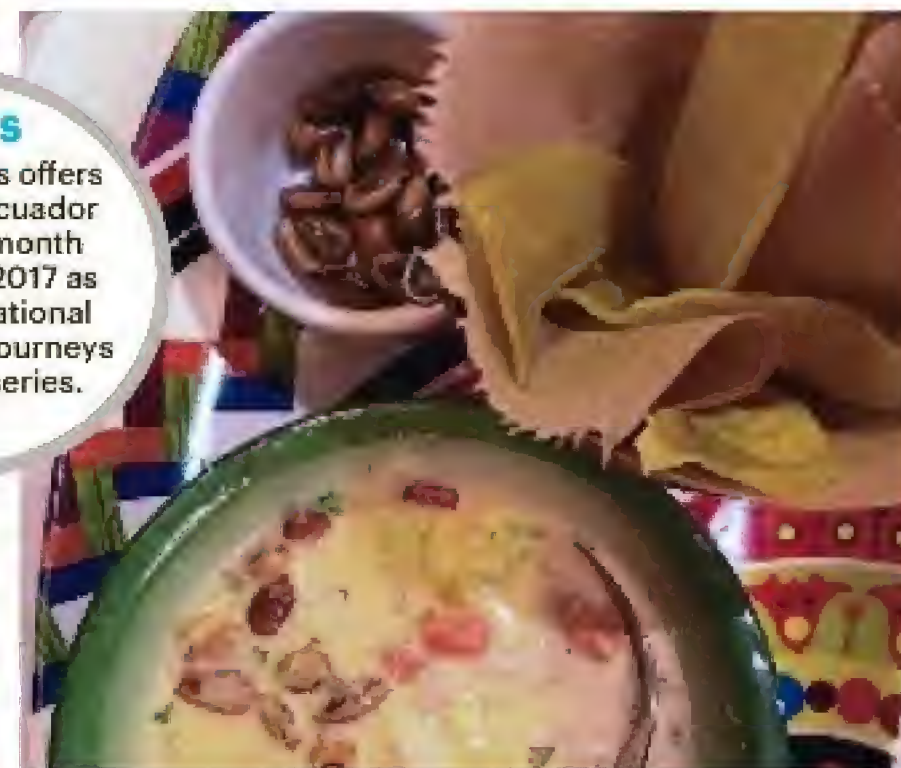
A trip up the winding highways to the highlands nets you volcanic vistas, indigenous realism and misty forest. The city of Otavalo, in a lake region known for its textiles, has the largest outdoor market in South America, with row after row of stalls selling crafts and souvenirs. Spend a night at 200-year-old Hacienda Pinsaqui nearby, and enjoy a canelazo in the legendary bar — a spiked cinnamon tea.



DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

4 Journey to the jungle

Journey into the jungle for a night or three at one of the remote lodges in and around Yasuni National Park, accessible only by motorized canoe. You get the full rainforest effect communing with monkeys, fishing for piranha, scanning treetops for rare birds, and watching parrots play along the clay riverbanks. Local community visits yield eye-opening simplicity, a vibrant culture and warm hospitality.



DOUG WALLACE/FOR METRO

5 Eat local

Traditional Ecuadorian food is plentiful, reasonably priced and delicious, particularly the barbecue. Fresh fish, fried chicken and churrasco beef dishes are dolled up with a variety of home-style hot sauces, patatas fritas, flavoured rice or deep-fried plantain. Steer clear of the street food, as your stomach may not react as positively as your eyes, but do step outside the taste-bud box and experience some of the authentic delicacies. **Doug Wallace's trip was sponsored by GAdventures.com, which did not approve or review this story.**

TOURS

G Adventures offers a nine-day Ecuador tour every month throughout 2017 as part of its National Geographic Journeys adventure series.

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NEVADA

Top courses just a short trip from the Vegas Strip

Brian Kendall
For Metro Canada



Las Vegas offers temptations that would make Caligula blush.

But Sin City is many things, not least an outstanding golf destination. On a recent visit, I played several exceptional courses, whacked balls at newly opened Topgolf Las Vegas — and between rounds dined like a sated emperor in dining rooms that included, most memorably, Nobu Restaurant in Caesars Palace.

Part of the beauty of golf in Las Vegas is that several top courses are just a short cab ride from the Strip, eliminating the need for a rental car.

Next door to the Mandalay Resort and Casino is Bali Hai Golf Club, a gorgeous Schmidt-Curley design offering views of the towering casinos from tees



Mexican-American professional BMX rider and television personality Ricardo Laguna tees off at Topgolf Las Vegas. CONTRIBUTED

and greens. Golf purists might prefer Desert Pines Golf Club, also in the heart of the city. This Carolina sand hills-style design by the great Pete Dye is lined with more than 4,000 pines.

Another must-play course

right in town is Bear's Best Las Vegas, featuring 18 reproductions of holes selected by Jack Nicklaus from the more than 270 courses he has designed around the world.

Tribute courses like Bear's Best

are a natural fit in a town where giant-sized knockoffs of the Eiffel Tower and the Statue of Liberty loom over the throngs of fun-seekers wandering the Strip day and night.

At Royal Links Golf Club hom-



This is a city that almost demands at least one big splurge every visit. Mine was at Nobu Restaurant in Caesars Palace.

age is paid to the greatest holes found at the hallowed links that have hosted British Opens.

A highlight is the recreation of Royal Troon's famous par-three Postage Stamp, which at 123 yards is the shortest hole in the Open rotation.

Other outstanding courses in or near Las Vegas include Las Vegas Palate Golf Resort, Cascata, TPC Las Vegas and Las Vegas National Golf Club, famous as the site of Tiger Woods' first PGA Tour victory in 1996.

And a popular new attraction for golfers, Topgolf Las Vegas, opened last May in the glittering heart of downtown. The latest in a growing U.S.-wide chain of deluxe driving ranges, Topgolf features four levels of hitting bays, hundreds of HDTVs, a stage for live concerts, swimming pools, private VIP rooms, and even a Callaway golf fitting centre. Golfers score points by hitting targets on the range.

It's all wonderfully entertain-

ing. Indeed, my visit to Topgolf made me wonder if I was looking at the future of golf. Regional Topgolf champions recently competed in Las Vegas for a grand prize of \$50,000 U.S.

Pricing at Topgolf starts at \$30 U.S. per hour for a group of up to six people, a bargain as Las Vegas entertainments go.

But this is a city that almost demands at least one big splurge every visit. Mine was at Nobu Restaurant in Caesars Palace, part of a wildly acclaimed fine dining chain featuring the Asian fusion cuisine of Nobuyuki "Nobu" Matsuhisa.

Specialties include black cod miso (Robert De Niro's favourite), rock shrimp tempura, and yellowtail sashimi with jalapeno and squid pasta. In all my golf travels, I've rarely — if ever — dined better.

For more golf travel stories, visit Brian's website at canadiangolfttraveller.com

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Members of team Vive Montreal make their way across the ice on the St. Lawrence River during an ice canoeing practice in Montreal's Old Port. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

OUTDOORS

Winter paddling is a growing sport in Quebec

As the canoe slides into the freezing waters of the St. Lawrence River, the yells echo through the winter air as the hardy team members half-glide, half-scramble across the ice chunks to open water.

The temperature is -2 C — relatively balmy for Montreal in January, though still not what many people would consider ideal for water sports.

But between battling the ice, the current and the elements, ice canoers say they never get cold no matter how low the temperature dips.

"Before I first tried I was like,

"I can't believe I'm going to put my leg in the water in half an hour, oh my God," Montreal rower Mylene Paquette said at a recent practice in the city's Old Port.

"But once we row we warm up so fast we're not cold any more."

Paquette, who is best known for rowing solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 2013, is now the captain of Vive Montreal 375, a team formed in honour of the anniversary of the city's founding in 1642.

The team, which is sponsored by the city, is hoping to compete in the Montreal leg of the province's racing circuit — and raise the sport's profile while doing it.

Ice canoeing, once a necessary means of transportation, has now become a fast-paced sport unique to Quebec.

Five-person teams alternate

between rowing and "scootering" — using one leg to push the canoe across iced-over portions of the river — as they compete with other teams around a course.

Its roots go back to Quebec City more than 400 years ago, when canoes were the only way to transport people and goods when the weather was too warm for an ice bridge, but too treacherous for ships.

Since being revived as a sport several decades ago, Quebec's ice canoe racing circuit has grown to seven races and almost 60 active teams, according to Catherine Paquin, executive director of the province's racing association.

Quebec City Mayor Régis Labeaume even suggested ice canoeing as a possible Olympic demonstration sport last year as he mulled a now-abandoned bid to host the Games.

The exact format and distance of the races varies by location. Montreal's, for example, is 13 kilometres for elite women and the mixed "sport" class teams, and 17 kilometres for elite men.

Weather, of course, is an ever-present factor, and difficult conditions easily turn a one-hour race into a three-hour one, says Paquin, an elite woman racer herself.

"It's always a box of surprises in the winter and it's never the same route twice because your terrain — the ice — is always moving with the current," she said.

"You have to deal with the current, the wind, the snow... but that's part of the beauty of the sport."

The sport will be on full display as some 40 teams, including Paquette's, compete in Montreal's ice canoe challenge

on Feb 12 in the Old Port.

The fifth edition of the race coincides with a larger winter festival put on as part of the city's year-long 375th birthday celebrations.

And, while the demands of racing are a perfect fit for a top athlete like Paquette, one Quebec City-based company is offering a scaled down version for tourists who want to — literally — get their feet wet.

A three-hour session includes equipment, a safety lesson and about an hour on the water, complete with a stop on a mid-river ice bank to drink hot chocolate and pose for selfies with the Chateau-Frontenac Hotel.

Felix Blanchet-Levesque, owner of the company, says the activity is safe and doable for anyone who is in fairly good shape, from teenagers to senior citizens.

"Some basic rules are: don't

“

Some basic rules are: don't let go of the canoe, don't let go of the canoe, and don't let go of the canoe.

Felix Blanchet-Levesque

let go of the canoe, don't let go of the canoe, and don't let go of the canoe," he said in an interview.

He says the St. Lawrence's geography, currents and temperature create a unique opportunity to try an activity that barely exists anywhere else, if at all.

"You'll never feel so close to the river," he said. "You hear the ice cracking under your feet, the river rushing by."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EUROPE

Budapest baths a time-honoured ritual

The buzz about Budapest has been steadily building since Hungary joined the European Union in 2004, but the former imperial capital owes at least some of its prosperity to centuries of experience with slowing down, taking a breath and sinking neck-deep into blissful relaxation.

For the harried traveller an escape to one of the city's seven

public thermal baths provides a soothing glimpse into that history while being just a quick subway ride away from the city centre.

The Romans were the first to harness the area's hot springs, setting up a regional capital here partly because of the steamy mineral water bubbling below ground. The ruins of those grand

temples are still visible in the northern part of the city. More than 1,000 years later, the Ottomans established the city as a trading post during their 150-year rule and built two baths.

The oldest, the Rudas Baths, features an octagonal room dating to 1550 with one main pool encircled by four smaller ones of varying temperatures.

If you go to Rudas for the history, try the Szechenyi Baths for the grandeur. Built in stages in the early 1900s, the gilded neo-Baroque facility is one of the largest thermal spas in Europe. Ornate, blazing yellow buildings form a courtyard that encloses three huge naturally heated pools.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Visitors play chess in a pool of Szechenyi Thermal Bath and Swimming Pool. ZOLTAN BALOGH/MTI VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRAVEL NOTES FAKE REEF, KENTUCKY BOURBON & HENRY FORD



TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Ship doubles as artificial reef off of Texas coast

A 113-metre former cargo vessel named for a mythical sea monster has become an artificial reef in the Gulf of Mexico off Texas. The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department says the Kraken was sunk 108 kilometres off Galveston. The ship is expected to become a home to fish, coral and other sea-life, plus a destination for divers. The project is part of the state's Artificial Reef Program.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



ISTOCK

Kentucky bourbon tourism hits new milestone

Kentucky's whiskey makers are toasting a new milestone in bourbon tourism. The Kentucky Distillers' Association says more than one million guests visited distilleries along the Kentucky Bourbon Trail and Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour in 2016. KDA says the tourism attractions had double-digit attendance growth compared to 2015.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



JENNIFER BAIN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Henry Ford Museum changing name to reflect innovation focus

The Henry Ford Museum in suburban Detroit has changed its name to better convey the museum's collection and its core focus on innovation, officials announced Monday. The museum now will be known as the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation. The museum was founded by auto pioneer Henry Ford and is part of The Henry Ford, a popular tourist destination in Dearborn, Mich. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AUTO PREVIEW



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CAMRY'S SHARPENED CLAWS STILL DELIVER

Being tops in class doesn't automatically guarantee success, with several mid-size marques chasing the Toyota Camry's tailpipe.

A couple of seasons ago, Toyota sharpened the Camry's claws in one of the brand's more dramatic adjustments. A significantly different front end improved looks a whole lot and a new

dashboard and more stylish seat covers were also installed. The Camry's power teams — two gasoline and one gas-electric — remain competitive against the rest of the field. Meanwhile the Hybrid scores impressive marks in fuel economy, but only if you keep a light touch on the gas pedal. Both gasoline engines are mated

to six-speed automatic transmissions, while the Hybrid employs a continuously variable unit (CVT). The base Camry LE arrives with most of the expected content, but stepping up to the XSE and XLE will really make a difference with added sport and luxury content, including a power moonroof, acoustic noise-reducing windshield,

CAMRY

Base Price (including destination):
\$26,700; \$31,300 (Hybrid)

push-button start and a premium audio package that's combined with a navigation system.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF COROLLA SUCCESS

The Corolla brand has now been around for 50 years. Since then it has spawned literally dozens of Toyota models over the decades and helped build the Toyota franchise into the powerhouse it is today.

To celebrate this half-century milestone, the Corolla receives an updated front-end and adds a specially equipped 50th Anniversary Edition model. As well, with the demise of the Scion brand, the iM wagon will henceforth be called the Corolla iM (The Scion iA and FR-S will

COROLLA iM

Base Price (including destination):
\$18,200

also be relabelled as Toyotas). Unaltered is a 132-horsepower four-cylinder that carries over from the previous generation and connects to a six-speed manual transmission, or optional continuously variable (CVT) unit (the four-speed



CONTRIBUTED

automatic finally bites the dust).

Toyota's engineers added seven artificial shift points to the CVT that function automatically (or are controlled via available steering-column-mounted paddle shifters) that mimic

a regular automatic. The LE Eco is equipped with a 140-horsepower version of the 1.8 that gets slightly better fuel economy than the other trims. For 2017, all Corollas arrive with an array of standard active (crash-avoiding) safety gear.

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RAV4

Base Price (including destination): \$29,100; \$36,200, Hybrid

CONTRIBUTED

RAV4 AS POPULAR AS EVER SINCE REFRESH

Five years into its fourth generation and Toyota's compact sport ute remains as popular as ever. And it's likely to stay there for a while with the all-wheel-drive RAV4 Hybrid. That model was part of a recent refresh that included revised sheetmetal and interior

adjustments and an extension in the number of trim levels. Unchanged was the 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine and six-speed automatic transmission for the gas-only version, while the Hybrid uses a similar 2.5 engine connected to a continuously variable transmission plus

two electric motors.

The gasoline RAV4's optional all-wheel-drive has a "Lock" mode that keeps half the power going to the rear wheels as long as you're driving slower than 40 km/h. Sport mode allows wider transfer of torque between

the front and rear wheels (as much as half to the rear) than the Auto mode. The RAV4's interior is awash with "soft-touch" materials and silver trim bits. There's also a 6.1-inch screen that doubles as a monitor for the back-up camera, which is also standard.

THE TOP-SELLING PICKUP

The Tacoma remains Toyota's top-selling pickup. A 2016 redesign for both the Access Cab and Double Cab models resulted in bolder styling. The restyled cabin benefits from considerably more sound insulation.

The base engine continues as a 2.7-litre four-cylinder, while a more potent V-6 is optional.

The I-4 is paired with a five-speed manual transmission, while the V-6 gets a six-speed unit (a six-speed manual is standard on TRD models). An available six-speed automatic is common to both powerplants.

Four-wheel-drive can be added, regardless of engine or cab choices, however manual-transmission-equipped Tacomas will automatically come with four-wheel-drive.

The base SR Access Cab is thin on features, but the SR5 adds considerably more content.

The TRD (Toyota Racing Development)

gets sport-tuned or off-road Bilstein-brand shocks, a Multi-Terrain Select system that regulates the transmission, throttle and brakes for mud, rock or sand conditions, locking rear differential and a crawl control for extreme trail conditions.

TACOMA

Base Price (including destination): \$31,200



HIGHLANDER

Base Price (including destination): \$35,500

CONTRIBUTED

Comfortable ride a Highlander hallmark

The eight-passenger Highlander is a popular alternative to a minivan, especially when equipped with available third-row seating; it has plenty of room for the whole family.

Drivers will also enjoy a well-appointed cabin and a comfortable ride, which have always been Highlander hallmarks. For 2017, Toyota has devised a more dramatic front-end design, including a grille that appears almost too large for the rest of the body. Mechanically, the Highlander is equipped with a 278-horsepower (up from 270) V-6 with all-wheel-drive

standard on all but the price-leader LE model. The V-6 is also more fuel efficient, aided by the installation of a new eight-speed automatic transmission that replaces the six-speed unit that's exclusive to the base engine. The AWD Highlander Hybrid also gets the reworked V-6, but sticks with the continuously variable transmission (CVT). It's now rated at 306 horsepower, up from the previous 280. Toyota has added a number of key crash-avoiding safety features as standard equipment on all Highlander trim levels.

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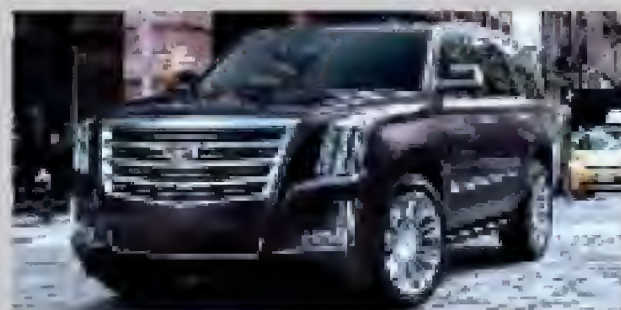
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LIVING LARGE IN THE ESCALADE

For those who enjoy living and driving large, Cadillac has the ultimate juggernaut. The Escalade and extended-size Escalade ESV are more like luxury staterooms or pent-houses on wheels. In the Escalade's case, first class combines maximum comfort and performance, along with rugged all-road capability that it shares with General Motors' less-expensive Chevrolet Tahoe/Suburban and GMC Yukon relatives. The ESV is 51 centimetres longer and has a 35-centimetre wheelbase advantage over the standard-size Escalade. That translates into a considerable gain in cargo space with both rear seats folded or with the standard third-row seat in place. Equipped with a standard Chevrolet-Corvette-based V-8, Cadillac claims the Escalade can dash to 60 mph (96 km/h) from rest in less than six seconds. Four-wheel-drive is standard in both the regular-length and extended ESV Escalades. It can be left in fully automatic mode, or in manually selected "4 HI" for added traction in mud and snow conditions. The Escalade is more than off-road capable, but you're not likely to find many out there.



ESCALADE/ESV

Base Price (incl. destination): \$84,400



CONTRIBUTED

CADILLAC'S PERFORMANCE MODEL

Cadillac is working hard to establish the ATS as a prime alternative to buying other premium compact brands, and those efforts are slowly beginning to pay off.

To reinforce the ATS's image as a performance model, the base 202-horsepower four-cylinder has departed, leaving the next-in-line turbocharged I-4 as the starting point and a non-turbo V-6 optional.

But for some serious action, the ATS-V sedan or coupe uses the same twin-turbocharged V-6 found in its larger siblings' V-sport trim, but here it develops 464 horsepower. The

rear-drive "V" can be had with either a six-speed manual transmission with active rev-matching for no-lift-shifts, or an eight-speed automatic. Using the standard launch control, the ATS-V does zero-to-60-mph (96 km/h) in 3.8 seconds.

The "V" rides on special 18-inch wheels wrapped in Michelin rubber. Available content packages add more carbon fiber and a higher level of track-readiness, should you desire. Interior ATS-V content includes more supportive 16-way Recaro-brand seats, and plenty of hand-stitched leather.

ATS

Base Price (including destination):
\$40,200 (sedan); \$42,600 (Coupe);
\$68,100 (V sedan); \$70,400 (V Coupe)



All the looks and comfort

The five-passenger XT5 wagon shares virtually nothing with the SRX it replaces. Even so, Cadillac chose not to fiddle too much with the overall dimensions, other than a five-centimetre increase between the front and rear wheels. That results in more rear-seat legroom plus a bit more stowage space behind the split-folding second-row bench.

Both the SRX and XT5 share similar traits, but the latter's front and rear ends are considerably sleeker and the side body panels are more sharply defined. But what really separates the old from the new is an all-new platform that's lighter by about 23 kilograms.

The reduced heft helps the standard V-6 that has been engineered for slightly more spunkiness and includes cylinder deactivation that shuts down two of the six cylinders under light load conditions for reduced fuel consumption. Sending twisting force to the front or all four wheels (if the optional all-wheel-drive is selected) is handled by an

eight-speed automatic transmission with manual-shift paddles.

By any measure, the looks, comfort, performance and safety of the XT5 picks up where the SRX left off and elevates the bar several notches.

XT5

Base Price (including destination):
\$47,200



CONTRIBUTED

CT6 (NEW)

Base Price (including destination): \$63,800

Lightweight construction with power

If there are niches to fill in the luxury car category, Cadillac appears determined to fill them. The CT6 combines luxury appointments, prodigious power, knife-edgy design and, last but not least, lithe and lightweight construction.

To this point, Cadillac claims that the CT6 tips the scales below the Mercedes-Benz E-Class and BMW 5-series sedans and weighs about the same as the smaller Cadillac CTS (the CT6 has more than 20 centimetres grafted in between the front and rear wheels). Assisting in the pound-paring quest is a 100 per cent aluminum

body and front suspension. Preventing the CT6 from becoming corpulent ensures that the three available power teams will provide the driver with plenty of kick.

All are connected to eight-speed transmissions. All-wheel-drive is available with only V-6 engines. Among the CT6's more unique options are all-wheel-steering, "Quadzone" climate control, an articulating heated and cooled rear seat with massage and a Bose "Panaray" sound system with 34 (!) strategically positioned speakers.

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REDUCE FUEL CONSUMPTION

When it comes to combining luxury and utility, the MDX is Acura's ace in the hole. For 2017 the seven-passenger tall wagon receives new front- and rear-end treatments (including a new grille) as well as a new hybrid powertrain option adapted from the flagship RLX that produces a system output of 325 horsepower. Acura claims the hybrid will reduce fuel consumption by about 20 per cent in city driving. Unchanged is the MDX's 3.5-litre V-6 that makes 290 horsepower. It's connected to a nine-speed automatic transmission. Added as standard on all trim levels is Acura's AcuraWatch system. Among its many features is adaptive cruise control with low-speed follow that maintains a safe distance from the vehicle in front, while collision-mitigating braking will bring the MDX to a full stop, if necessary, to avoid a crash. Also included is road-departure mitigation that helps keep you in your lane as well as from heading off the road entirely. Blind spot monitoring and cross-traffic alerts also help keep you safe when surrounded by traffic and act as your eyes when backing up. A navigation system, premium audio package, rear-seat entertainment screen and a GPS-linked climate control that varies the cabin temp according to the sun's position are all on the MDX's option list.

MDX

Base Price (incl. destination): \$55,700



CONTRIBUTED

THE KEYS TO A LUXURY COMPACT

The Acura ILX is a polished performer that's a shining example of what an entry-luxury compact should be. It wasn't always that way, however.

Shortly after the 2013 ILX was launched, the brass at Honda's upscale division admitted that the car's performance disappointed many prospective buyers. As it turned out, the ILX's ties to the Honda Civic sedan from whence it came were just a bit too tight. The 2016 edition corrected that problem for good. Banished was the 2015 car's 150-horsepower four-cylinder and optional 201-horsepower I-4. Instead, Acura tapped the 201-horsepower four-cylinder from the mid-size TLX sedan. An eight-speed

automated manual transmission with paddle-shifters that also originates from the TLX became standard. The punchier engine has been character-changing and thrusts the ILX several levels beyond its Civic roots. Options include navigation and premium sound systems, leather interior upgrade and 18-inch wheels (17-inchers are standard). There's also an entire range of available collision-avoiding techno-bits that warn you of other vehicles in front, beside or crossing behind you or when backing out of a parking spot. There's also an alert to warn or slow down the ILX if the driver inadvertently drifts outside its intended lane or begins to veer off the road entirely.

ILX

Base Price (including destination): \$31,500



TLX

Base Price (including destination): \$37,700

CONTRIBUTED

TLX the perfect union of two automobiles

The TLX is Acura's entry-luxury sports sedan that competes in a segment it practically invented back in the late 1990s with the TL.

But with changing times and increased competition, Honda's premium division developed a new lineup strategy by combining the TL with the TSX to create the TLX. Physically, the TLX is shorter than the TL by 3.7 inches, primarily due to a reduction in front and rear overhang. It's also about an inch narrower and the roofline is slightly lower. However the wheelbase remains identical to that of the TL, ensuring adequate legroom for rear-seat riders. Under the hood, a 2.4-liter

four-cylinder engine makes 206 horsepower and 182 pound-feet of torque. It's mated to a quick-shifting eight-speed automated manual "dual clutch" transmission, called a DCT. Optional is a 290-horsepower V-6 that uses a nine-speed automatic with a console-mounted pushbutton gear selector. The I-4 TLX is strictly a front-wheel-driver, while V-6 versions are available with an upgraded version of Acura's SH-AWD. All four-cylinder and FWD V-6 models come with all-wheel-steering (P-AWS) that slightly alters the rear wheels in phase with the fronts when turning at speed.

Shaking up the elite-car class

The original NSX that challenged German and Italian supercars, costing much more when it debuted for the 1991 model year, was considered revolutionary in its day.

Now more than a quarter-century later, a completely redesigned mid-engine NSX is poised to shake up that elite-car class again. The most unique part of the car — other than it being the most expensive car that Honda has ever sold — is the hybrid propulsion system consisting of two electric motors powering the front wheels plus a third motor connected to a twin-turbo V-6 that sits directly behind the cockpit.

The next result of this gasoline-electric mélange is 573 horsepower and 476 pound-feet of torque. The latter is sent to the rear wheels (remember the twin front motors function independently of the V-6 and its electric motor) by way of a nine-speed automatic transmission. To make the most of the power, or to consume the least amount of fuel, the NSX can be set to Quiet, Sport, Sport

Plus or Track modes. The first one minimizes the V-6's operation, while the last two are for all-out performance (Sport is the standard setting).

In addition, the suspension can be dialed by selecting one of two settings that control the dampers. Extra-cost options include fade-free ceramic brakes, and a carbon-fiber roof, rear spoiler and other pieces

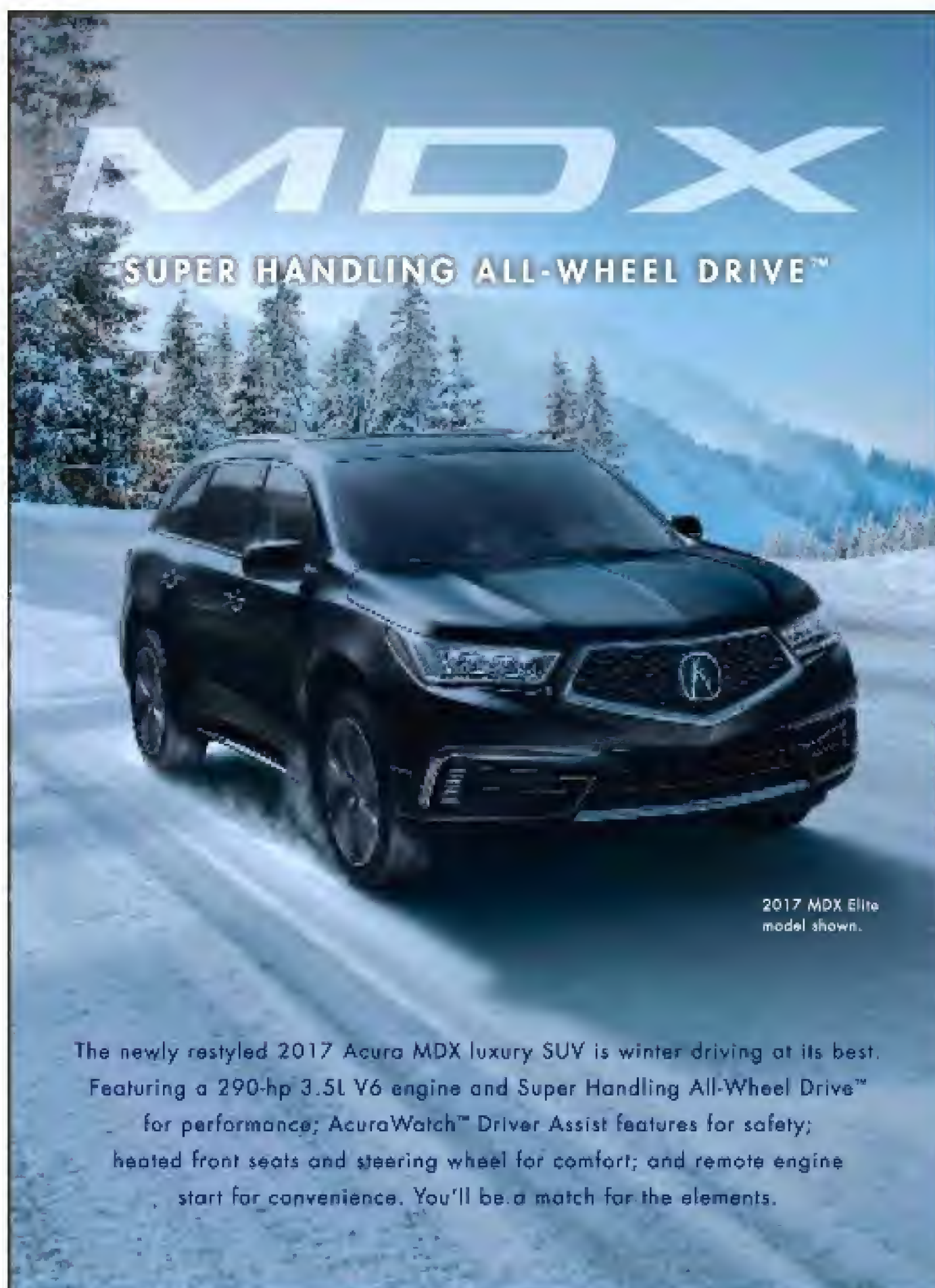
NSX (NEW)

Base Price (including destination): \$205,800



MDX

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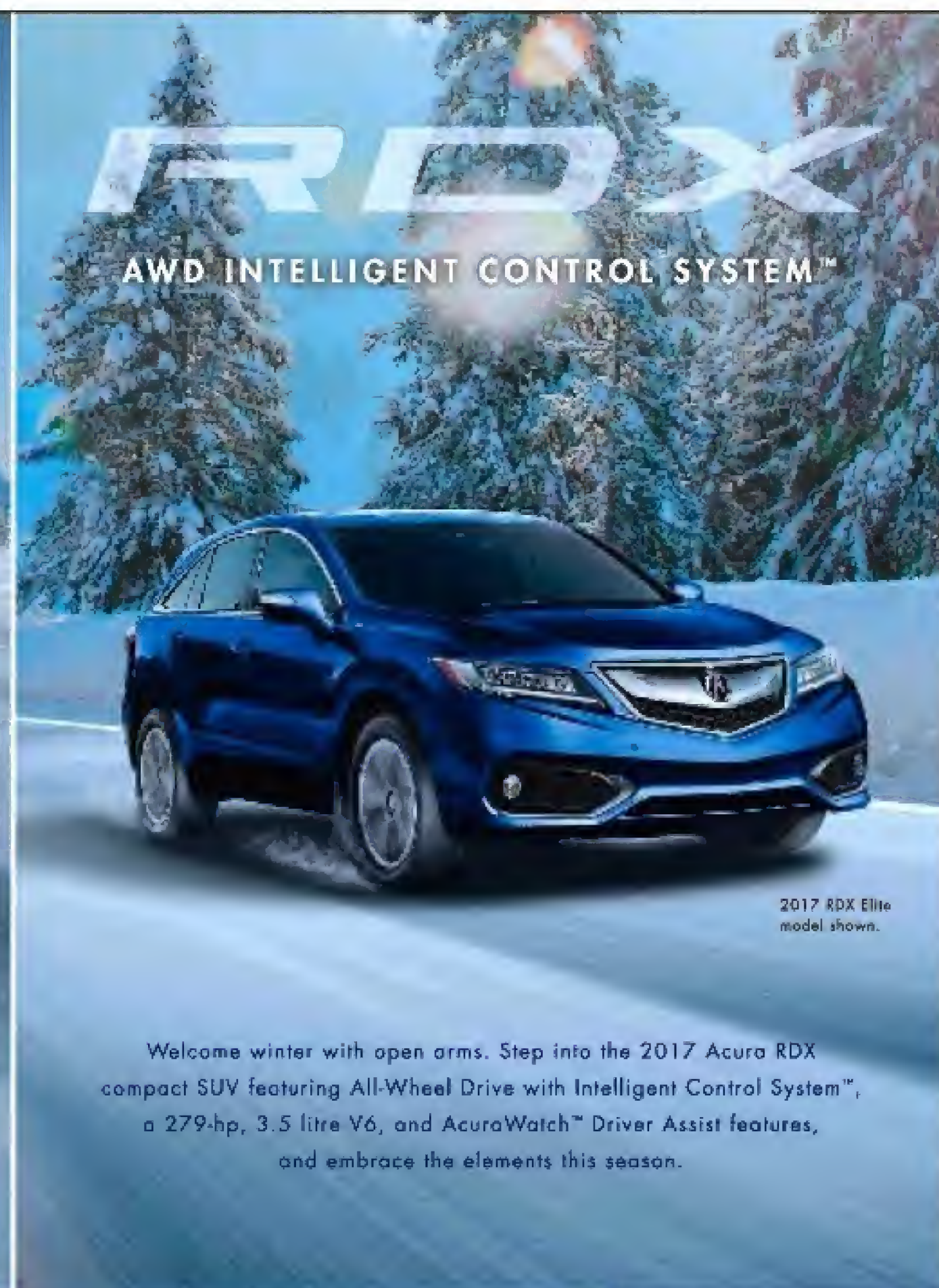


2017 MDX Elite model shown.

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RDX

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2017 RDX Elite model shown.

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AMVIC LICENSEE

CHIC IN THE STREETS

The compact Sentra looks closely similar to the mid-size Altima, so much so that from a distance one could easily be confused for the other.

However it's doubtful that the performance-infused SR Turbo model will be confused for anything else once it hits the streets. The SR's key component is a torquey little 188-horsepower four-cylinder engine that was originally installed in the Nissan Juke. That's 58 more ponies than the non-turbo Sentra's 130-horsepower I-4. The SR can be ordered with a six-speed manual transmission, or an available continuously variable unit (CVT). Other exclusive items include a strengthened body structure (to accommodate the extra power), stiffer springs, specially tuned front and rear shocks, bigger brakes and an SR-Turbo-specific steering rack.

There's also added standard equipment such as a power-sliding moonroof, sport bucket seats and unique 17-inch wheels.

Meanwhile the regular-strength Sentra carries on with five different trim levels plus a wide assortment of luxury and advanced safety options.



SENTRA

Base Price (including destination): \$17,500



CONTRIBUTED

MID-SIZE SEDANS STILL STYLISH

Despite their lagging sales (due to the growth in so-called crossover models) mid-size sedans like the Altima remain a relatively popular body style and receive frequent updates as a result. For 2016, the Altima received a bolder-looking grille as well as redesigned headlights, hood and front fenders at one end and a revised trunk lid and taillights at the other end. The body structure was also strengthened around the roof pillars and additional sound deadening was added. Continuing on is the Altima's base 182-horsepower four-cylinder engine, while a 270-horsepower V-6 remains optional. Each is

linked to a continuously variable transmission (CVT). On the safety front, all models come with "Active Understeer Control" that applies light braking pressure to the inside front wheel in a corner. This counteracts a vehicle's natural tendency to continue in a straight line when the front wheels are turned. Also assisting the driver is Nissan's Easy Fill Tire Alert that sounds the car's horn when the correct tire inflation has been reached. As well, the Altima's headlights automatically turn on after the wipers have completed four cycles, which helps other drivers see you during downpour conditions.

ALTIMA

Base Price (including destination): \$25,750



It's the inside that counts

The Versa Note is one of those cars that's small on the outside, but with clever interior packaging it offers a generous amount of interior space.

Open the hatch and an adjustable-height load floor option called "IHide-N-Divide" can be raised to match the height of the rear seat when it's folded flat, resulting in a hidden storage compartment below. The Note sings with a 109-horsepower 1.6-litre engine that uses a five-speed manual transmission, or available continuously variable unit for directing torque to the front wheels.

Trim levels begin with the 1.6 S that, except for air conditioning and a basic radio/CD player, is pretty plain. You can add options or step up to the SV with its heated front seats, remote keyless entry, alloy wheels and other niceties. The SV trim is required if you want an optional navigation system and Nissan's "Around View Monitor" that shows a 360-degree depiction of the

vehicle in relation to its surroundings.

The SR gets sportier front and rear fascias, fog lights and suede-covered seats, while the top-end SL gets a five-inch colour display, rear-view monitor, heated seats and unique 16-inch wheel designs.

VERSA NOTE

Base Price (including destination): \$16,100



CONTRIBUTED

MURANO

Base Price (including destination): \$32,500

A CAR AFTER YOUR OWN HEART

The Murano is a car that appeals primarily to buyer's hearts. The crisply creased sheetmetal that extends along the door panels is interrupted by a fin-like hitch that seemingly rises into the rear-most side glass.

The cabin is equally impressive, with a low-level instrument panel and enlarged windshield that enhances the forward view. The Murano's sole powerplant is a 260 horsepower V-6. That output level is modest in this age of advanced

direct-injection and turbocharged engines found in competing brands, but it's adequate in a wagon that weighs only about 1,800 kilograms. Power is delivered to the front and/or rear wheels via a continuously variable transmission (CVT) with built-in "steps" that sort of mimic a multi-gear automatic transmission.

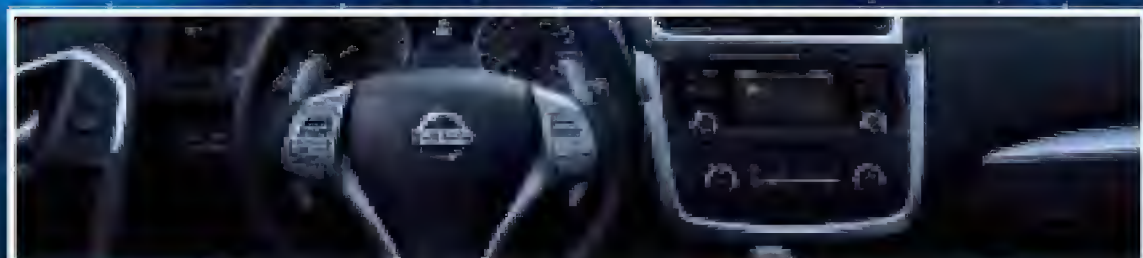
There are no steering-column-mounted paddle shifters, but the console shifter can be used to manually control the faux ratios.



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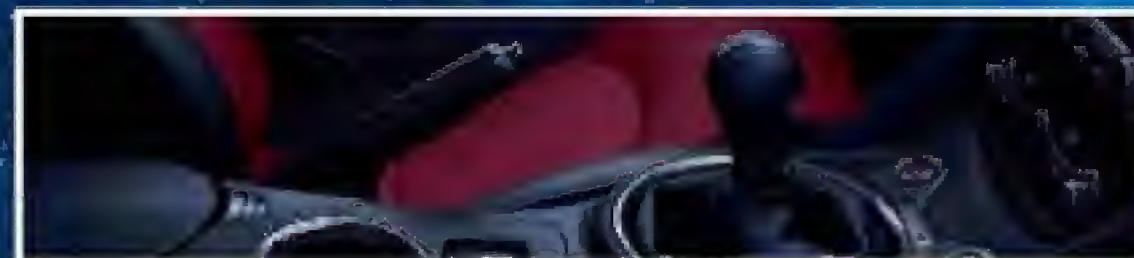
5-SPOKE ALUMINUM ALLOY WHEELS



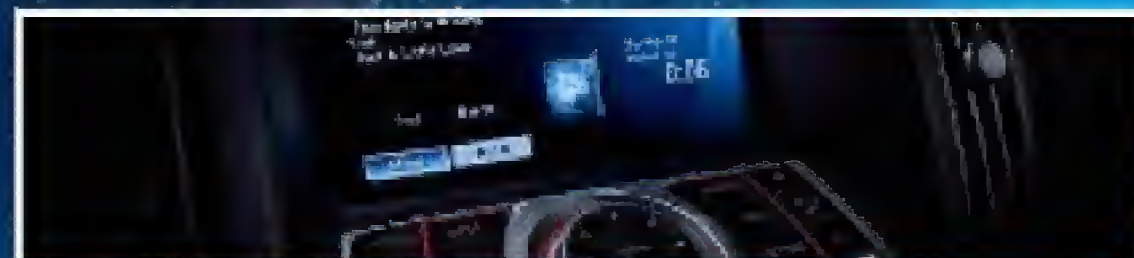
PUSH BUTTON IGNITION



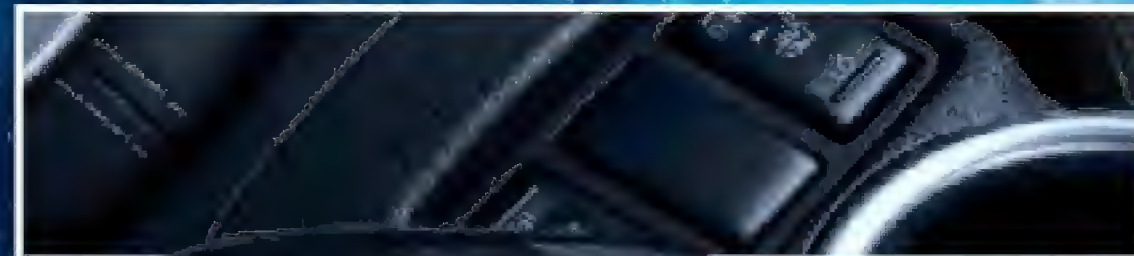
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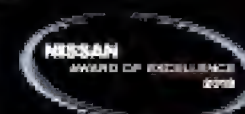
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AN ALL NEW ELANTRA FOR '17

Hyundai has proven that it's fearless when it comes to re-engineering one of its top sellers. The Elantra's key dimensions have changed little from the previous model, but the sheetmetal is quite different. Additionally, the platform's redesign has resulted in a stronger, stiffer body structure. It's also lighter and, along with an all-new rear suspension, is designed to deliver a better driving experience plus added comfort and quietness for passengers. The new Elantra brings with it a choice of three engines: a 147-horsepower four-cylinder with a six-speed manual or automatic transmission, a turbocharged 128-horsepower I-4 (exclusive to the gas-sipping Eco model) with a seven-speed automated manual. Meanwhile the Elantra GT hatchback, which will remain unchanged until the 2018 model year, uses a 173-horsepower four-cylinder hooked up to a six-speed manual or automatic. The Elantra sedan might appear more buttoned-down than before, but it's consistent with the kind of quality image that Hyundai wants to project.



ELANTRA

Base Price (incl. destination): \$17,700 (sedan); \$20,250 (GT)



CONTRIBUTED

LEADING THE WAY IN SPACE, STYLE

Hyundai made its reputation making small, inexpensive cars such as the Accent, which is a car that leads the way in style, space and performance. Both sedan and hatchback appear and drive larger than they actually are. The sedan excels in passenger roominess, as does the hatchback, although the latter's sweeping roofline and curvaceous liftgate make it the most practical Accent and arguably the best looking of the two. Hyundai also claims the hatchback bests all comers with the second-row seat in the upright position. However the better-packaged Honda Fit still enjoys signifi-

cant space-race superiority when measuring maximum volume with the rear seat folded flat.

The Accent's 1.6-litre engine comes with a six-speed manual transmission, or optional six-speed automatic. There are noticeably few content differences between trim levels, other than upgraded this or fancier that. In fact, items such as a power sunroof, leather-covered seats, navigation system and active safety equipment are missing from the available features list. That seems to indicate that Hyundai is keeping the Accent's trim levels (and pricing) as close to the bone as possible.

ACCENT

Base Price (including destination): \$15,500



Sonata gets turbocharged

The current-generation Sonata is entering its third year, but since it was one of the first Hyundai model to feature the automaker's recently adopted design "language", the mid-size sedan still looks fresh.

Hyundai's designers have also worked to ensure the cabin is as free from outside road and tire noise as possible. The dashboard and control panel feature an integrated display screen and numerous, but logically positioned, pushbuttons with a minimum of twisty knobs.

The Sonata's base 2.4-litre four-cylinder engine and optional turbocharged 2.0-litre I-4 can be substituted with an optional 2.0-litre gas engine combined with an electric motor that's standard on the Sonata Hybrid and IHybrid plug-in with up to 43 kilometres of electric-only range.

Hybrid fuel economy is rated at 5.9

l/100 km city and 5.3 highway (5.6, combined) The 2.4, 2.0 and Hybrid (yes, even the IHybrid) are linked to six-speed automatic transmissions.

SONATA

Base Price (including destination): \$26,550



CONTRIBUTED

SANTA FE

Base Price (including destination): \$30,500 (Sport); \$34,100 (XL)

Choose the two- or three-row Santa Fe

The Santa Fe tries to be all things to all families by offering both two- and three-row seating capacities. To accomplish this, the automaker makes the shorter-wheelbase five-passenger Santa Fe Sport or the extended-length seven-passenger Santa Fe XL. The elongated version is heftier than the Sport by a good 180 kilograms, which explains why it's only available with a 290-horsepower 3.3-litre V6.

Conversely, the Sport comes with a base 2.4-litre four-cylinder, or the optional 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder. In all cases the sole transmission is a six-speed automatic with manual shift controls. Hyundai lets you add its latest all-wheel-drive setup with any Santa Fe you select. The system includes Torque Vectoring Corner Control (TVCC) that monitors driving conditions and can instantaneously direct the correct amount of power or braking force to any single wheel. TVCC assists in slippery conditions and provides added precision when negotiating turns.



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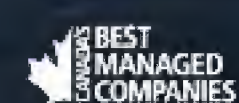
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THE SMART NEW MALIBU

The new Malibu is attractively and intelligently designed, allowing it to compete head to head with its rivals.

That's especially important these days, with the sedan category losing ground to crossovers (tall wagons) at a steady rate. The Malibu's dimensions provide greater passenger space than its predecessor, particularly behind the front seat.

The seven- and optional eight-inch tablet-style touch-screens controlling the entertainment and cabin functions are remarkable for their size and clarity. The revised powertrain lineup places greater emphasis on torque and fuel economy and not just horsepower, which is just fine for a car that's now significantly lighter.

The Hybrid uses components from the Chevrolet Volt's plug-in system to achieve exemplary fuel economy. Chevrolet claims it can run at speeds up to 80 km/h on battery power alone. A variety of active safety features are among the Malibu's many options.



MALIBU

Base Price (incl. destination): \$23,500



CONTRIBUTED

THE RETURN OF THE CAMARO ZL1 IN ALL ITS SUPERCHARGED V-8 GLORY

The battle for horsepower supremacy continues unabated between General Motors, Ford and Fiat Chrysler and their respective rear-wheel-drive sporty models.

The latest salvo sees the return of the Camaro ZL1 to the lineup in all its supercharged V-8 glory (thanks, Corvette) and available in coupe and convertible body styles.

With this latest entry from Chevrolet, what more could fans of old-school-style

American muscle want? Meanwhile, buyers are now settling in to the significantly lighter sixth-generation Camaro that launched for 2016.

Although it looks similar to the previous edition, the Camaro now has a stiffer chassis (shared with the Cadillac CTS and ATS) and a thoroughly revised interior.

The Camaro's existing turbo-four, six and eight-cylinder engines return, providing a range of performance options and price tags.

CAMARO

Base Price (including destination): \$30,900



Cruze joins hatchback craze

You have to know the current hatchback sedan craze remains in full swing when the Chevrolet Cruze finally climbs on board.

For 2017 the stylish Cruze Hatch (its official name) opens up its rear door and also opens up a world of possibilities for stowing your gear.

The Hatch joins the second-generation Cruze sedan that arrived for 2016. It weighs about 90 kilograms less than the 2015 version and comes with 15 more horsepower from the standard turbocharged four-cylinder engine.

Handling the shifting duties is a six-speed manual transmission and optional six-speed automatic.

Although the Cruze sedan is available in L, LS, LT and Premier trims, the Hatch is limited to the top two levels only. An RS package that consists of a unique grille and nose, fog lamps, chin spoiler, rocker

panels, rear spoiler and 18-inch wheels can be added to all Premier models.

A big draw for any compact car buyer is fuel economy. By this measurement alone the Cruze ranks near or at the top in class.

CRUZE

Base Price (including destination): \$17,850 (Sedan); \$23,000 (Hatch)



TRAX

Base Price (including destination): \$21,500

Small wagon makes Trax

CONTRIBUTED

The Trax is Chevrolet's small wagon with space for five, available all-wheel-drive and an aversion to the fuel pumps. Front seats are on the cozy side, but there's more shoulder room in back if you limit the rider count to two (there are seat belts for three). With the rear 60:40 bench and front passenger seat folded, there's space for plenty of bulky stuff, up to eight feet in length. The standard engine is a turbocharged 1.4-litre four-cylinder that now makes 153 horsepower and 177 pound-feet of torque (up from 138/148). It's backed by a six-speed automatic transmis-

sion. Base models come with 10 airbags plus an introductory subscription to GM's OnStar emergency/concierge and direction assist service. Air conditioning, rearview camera, roof rack, deluxe seat covers and 16-inch aluminum wheels are also included. From there the sky's the limit, including a power sunroof, navigation system, 18-inch wheels and an extensive list of active safety features. The available all-wheel-drive system automatically engages when the roads become slippery or when the vehicle accelerates from a stop.

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LEXUS SEDAN GETS A FACELIFT

Every year since the third-generation IS's launch, Lexus has made changes to the sedan, although for 2017 they're mostly cosmetic. They include new taillights and a revised front-end with side air intakes that can best be described as massive. Returning are the sedan's three trims, starting with the IS 200t, equipped with a 241-horsepower four-cylinder. The mid-point IS 300 gets a 255-horsepower V-6, while the IS 350's 3.5 puts out 306 ponies. The IS 200t is exclusively rear-wheel drive, while the IS 300 and IS 350 are exclusively all-wheel-drive. The system splits the torque evenly between the front and rear wheels in normal driving situations, but can transfer up to 70 per cent to the rear when front slippage is detected. The IS has Drive Mode Select throttle and transmission programming, with ECO, NORMAL and SPORT S settings for rear-wheel-drive models, plus a SNOW mode for AWD-equipped cars. The optional F SPORT package adds a SPORT S+ setting that firms up the suspension for more spirited driving.



IS

Base Price (incl. destination): \$41,550



CONTRIBUTED

THE ULTIMATE TRENDSETTER

The Lexus RX has been a trendsetter since launching for the 1999 model year, and the current fourth-generation model is no different.

The RX 350 and 450h hybrid variant were stretched a bit between the front and rear wheels for 2016. As a result, passengers are treated to a cabin with additional rear-seat space and a larger stowage area for their stuff.

The RX 350's V-6 produces 295 horsepower, while an eight-speed automatic transmission directs power to the front

and/or rear axles. The RX 450h hybrid functions with its own 259-horsepower version of the V-6, but combined with up to three motor generators, it makes 308 horsepower.

The standard all-wheel-drive system sends 100 per cent of the power to the front wheels under optimal road conditions and directs up to 50 per cent of the torque to the rear wheels when needed.

An optional F Sport trim package's constantly variable suspension system instantly adjusts the dampers according to road and driving conditions.

RX

Base Price (including destination): \$57,900



Find out what sets it apart

The RC is notable (and noticeable) for its knife-edge aero styling cues that set it apart from the pack.

The cockpit is richly tailored with good-looking faux leather seats (real leather is optional) and a thick leather-covered steering wheel. The Base RC 300 gets the same V-6 as the RC 350, only with 255 horsepower rather than 307. All-wheel-drive with a six-speed automatic transmission is standard with either powerplant, as is an eight-speed automatic transmission.

An F Sport package includes electronically controlled variable sport suspension, high-friction brake pads and 19-inch wheels (18-inchers are standard).

As well there are heated and ventilated sport front seats, power tilt/telescoping steering wheel and aluminum sport pedals and trim. For all-out performance, the rear-wheel-drive RC F uses a 467-horsepower V-8 with an eight-speed automatic.

It also includes special body panels, race-tuned suspension, bigger brakes and a multi-mode program allowing drivers to adjust throttle and shift settings or defeat the stability and traction controls for maximum racetrack action.

RC

Base Price (including destination): \$50,950



CONTRIBUTED

NX

Base Price (including destination): \$44,850 (NX 200T); \$56,250 (NX 300h)

Lexus embraces distinctive design

Lexus has abandoned styling subtlety and now embraces a design language that heads in the opposite direction.

A spindle grille that's common to other Lexus models dominates the NX's futuristic front end. On the optional F-Sport model, the blacked-out mesh grille is even more distinctive. The NX 200t uses a turbocharged 235-horsepower engine, while the NX 300h hybrid combines a 154-horsepower I-4 with a 141-horsepower electric motor for a combined 194 horsepower.

The all-wheel-drive (or "all-weather-drive," in Lexus-speak) in the NX 200t directs torque to just the front wheels when cruising, but can send up to 50 per cent to the rears when necessary. The NX 300h uses an electric motor to power the rear axle, which is activated once the vehicle accelerates from rest or when the front wheels begin losing grip. Optional is a navigation system, power-folding rear seat and liftgate and a wireless charging tray for energizing cell phones.



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PAYMENT INCLUDES \$2,000 AWD CREDIT

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KIA LAUNCHES HYBRID LINE

Kia claims that the launch of its first gas-electric hybrid model will be the first of what will become a number of similarly powered models, all sporting the Niro brand.

Physically the car is similar in size to the Kia Forte5 wagon and Toyota Prius, the latter being appropriate since Kia plans on taking direct aim at Toyota in the hybrid segment. In designing the compact hatchback/wagon, the focus was on keeping the weight down to a bare minimum.

The tactics employed to accomplish this included an aluminum hood and lift-gate, aluminum suspension parts, lighter-weight seat frames and a significantly lighter lithium-ion polymer 12-volt battery. Even the brake pedal is made of carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic. The powertrain's 103-horsepower four-cylinder engine is mated to a 43-horsepower electric motor that together produce 146 horsepower. Unlike traditional (read: Toyota) hybrids, the Niro uses a six-speed twin-clutch automatic to transmit power to the front wheels instead of a continuously variable transmission (CVT).

Among the numerous Niro options are a range of communications and collision-avoiding alerts and interventions.



NIRO (NEW)

Base Price (incl. destination):
\$28,000 (est.)



CONTRIBUTED

FORTE A COMPACT HEAVYWEIGHT

The Forte and Forte5 compete with heavyweights including the Toyota Corolla, Chevrolet Cruze and Honda Civic.

To keep Kia's compact in the game, the automaker has restyled the car's front and rear bodywork.

In addition, the powertrain lineup now includes two 2.0-litre four-cylinder engines.

The base sedan-only version makes 147 horsepower, while the optional I-4 (standard in the Forte5) produces 164. Available on the Forte5 is a turbocharged

1.6-litre I-4). The base sedan 2.0 is the fuel economy champ, while the latter is the obvious choice if you'd prefer some extra sizzle. Meanwhile the turbocharged 201-horsepower engine turns the Forte5 into a real sport wagon.

Spending time aboard the Forte should prove comforting for passengers with upgraded seat fabrics and the availability of safety features including forward collision warning, autonomous emergency braking and rear cross-traffic alert and blind-spot warning.

FORTE/FORTE5

Base Price (including destination):
\$17,100 (sedan); \$21,200 (Forte5)



Optima makeover still shines

The mid-size sedan received a recent makeover and shifts into 2017 with its newness still intact. The Optima was joined a few months following the start of the 2016 model year by an all-new hybrid model.

Exterior styling, an Optima strong suit, remains a major draw with buyers, as does a range of four-cylinder engine choices consisting of two non-turbo and two turbocharged powerplants. And with four trim levels — base LX, EX, SX and SXL — the Optima cuts a wide swath to satisfy a variety of budgets.

The new Optima hybrid that uses an

everyday six-speed automatic transmission (not the continuously variable kind that many drivers hate to use) is the Optima's fuel economy champ with a combined city/highway rating of 6.3 l/100 km.

Overall, the Optima's classy looks and a five-year/100,000-mile comprehensive warranty means it's game-on for Kia in the mid-size sedan class.

OPTIMA

Base Price (including destination):
\$25,400



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SAVE <\$1,750>
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SAVE <\$1,500>
LEASE PRICE:
\$30,435

**2017 SPORTAGE
LX AWD**



STK# 200869

CASH PURCHASE

\$28,235*

MSRP: \$29,235
SAVE <\$1,000>

FINANCE

\$164/BW*

SAVE <\$1,250>
FINANCE PRICE:
\$27,985

LEASE

\$149/BW*

SAVE <\$1,000>
FINANCE PRICE:
\$28,235

**2017 KIA
RIO5 LX+ AT**



STK# 31711

CASH PURCHASE

\$17,505*

MSRP: 19,755
SAVE: <2,250>

FINANCE

\$106/BW*

SAVE: <750>
FINANCE PRICE:
\$19,005

FINANCE

\$104/BW*

SAVE: <1000>
LEASE PRICE:
\$18,755

**2016 FORTE5
EX AT**



STK# 484084

CASH PURCHASE

\$19,405*

MSRP: \$24,155
SAVE <\$4,750>

FINANCE

\$125/BW*

SAVE <\$4,750>
FINANCE PRICE:
\$19,405

LEASE

\$122/BW*

SAVE <\$4,750>
LEASE PRICE:
\$19,405



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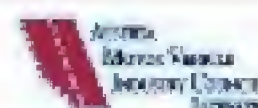


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LUXURY-LADEN HD

The Sierra and Chevrolet Silverado HD share a common ancestry that dates back to 1935. However, one important difference is that the GMC offers the luxury-laden Denali crew cab, in addition to SLE and SLT trim levels. Regular, extended double-cab and crew cab styles are available, as are 66-inch and 96-inch cargo boxes with built-in recessed steps at the corners for easier bed access. HD gas and turbo-diesel powertrains return unaltered, but models with the latter engine come with a hood scoop that directs cool air into the combustion chamber for cooler operating temperatures and improved engine performance. In addition, the turbo-diesel's "smart exhaust brake system" holds compressed exhaust gasses inside the engine's cylinders when coasting, creating resistance, which in turn slows down the truck without touching the brakes. The result is less brake wear and tear and greater control for the driver, especially when hauling or towing heavy loads downhill. The level of content, body and powertrain customization is practically limitless, guided only by your specific needs and budget.



SIERRA HD

Base Price (incl. destination): \$34,700



CONTRIBUTED

THE SIERRA GETS A NEW LOOK

The Sierra received significant visual changes for 2016, which included a new grille, front fascia and standard high-intensity-discharge (HID) headlights and LED running lights.

On the up-level All Terrain and Denali trims, there are also full LED headlights and taillights. Still, the Sierra and its Chevy Silverado truck buddy are pretty closely matched, despite some minor sheetmetal differences. Even the interiors of the two pickups share the same basic dash, control panel and available touch-screen communi-

cations centre that are a masterstroke of efficient legibility. Of course as you scale the trim-level ladder the appointments become more luxurious and the cabin resembles something approaching a high-end limo.

The Sierra's V-6 and the two available V-8s use aluminum cylinder blocks and direct injection, whereby fuel is force-fed — very precisely — into the cylinders under high pressure.

The larger of the V-8s gets an eight-speed automatic transmission, with the other two each using a six-speed unit.

SIERRA

Base Price (including destination): \$33,000



Comfort in a manageable size

The previous Acadia that was launched for the 2007 model year has been a big success for GMC, with the emphasis on "big." The second-generation Acadia now hits a sweeter spot with buyers seeking space and comfort in a more manageable size.

Although it still comes with three rows of seats, the folding third-row is more kid- than adult-friendly, cargo capacity has shrunk by quite a bit and maximum towing capacity has been reduced to 1,820 kilograms from 2,360. With a smaller base powerplant factored in, the new Acadia also weighs a significant 320 kilograms less.

The Acadia's smaller, lighter platform is derived from the same one used in the 2017 Cadillac XT5 and will also wind up in a reduced version of the similar Chevrolet Traverse. For 2017 a 2.5-litre four-cylinder becomes the base engine, while an updated V-6 becomes optional. A six-speed automatic transmission is common to both engines.

All-wheel-drive is available with either engine. It can be disconnected from the rear axle to save on fuel, or switched to 4x4, Sport, Off Road or Trailer/Tow modes by adjusting the console-mounted selector knob.

ACADIA (NEW)

Base Price (including destination): \$36,800



An ideal pickup to suit your needs

Both GM's Chevrolet and GMC divisions share many similar but moderately restyled vehicles wearing different nameplates, including the Canyon and its Chevy iteration, the Colorado. Both are smaller and less capable than their full-size GMC Sierra and Chevy Silverado counterparts, but for many pickup buyers they're the ideal size for their needs. Either extended or crew cab versions can be ordered with a 200-horsepower 2.5-litre four-cylinder or a 305-horsepower V-6.

For 2017, there's an additional 2.8-litre I-4 turbo-diesel option. The Duramax-badged engine produces 181 horsepower and 369 pound-feet of torque, making it the go-to powerplant when hauling payloads up to 1,800 pounds or trailering up to 3,500 kilograms.

A new Canyon Denali, that displays a unique grille plus plenty of added content inside and out, now supersedes the base SL, SLE and SLT trim levels. Canyons equipped with the 4x4 Autotrac system are available with an off-road



CONTRIBUTED

suspension package, locking rear differential, all-terrain rubber, automatic transmission and hill-descent control. There are, of course, a plethora of options and packages, including leather seats (heated in front), eight-inch touch-screen/navigation, and a factory-installed spray-on bed liner.

Forward-collision alert and lane-departure warning can be added, while a rear-vision camera is standard.

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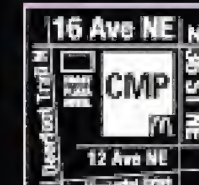
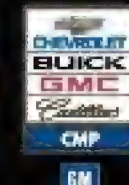
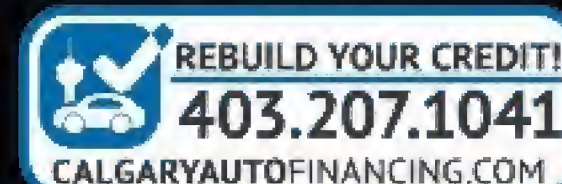
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Gulutzan gets desired response from Flames

NHL

'Pathetic' jibe at Calgary spurs them on to edge Senators in OT

Johnny Gaudreau scored in overtime as Calgary edged the Ottawa Senators 3-2 on Thursday, two days after the Flames were called pathetic by their own head coach Glen Gulutzan.

Micheal Ferland and Sean Monahan also scored for the Flames (25-24-3), who snapped a four-game losing streak. Brian Elliott, a former goalie for the Senators, made 25 saves for the win.

Chris Wideman and Tommy Wingels scored for the Senators (26-15-6) as Mike Condon stopped 23 shots in Ottawa's net.

The game marked the return of former Ottawa head coach Dave Cameron, who was fired following last season. He is now an assistant coach for Calgary.

After a slow start the Senators scored twice in the third period to tie the game to finally give the 16,263 on hand at Canadian Tire Centre something to get excited about.

Wideman tied the game 2-2 with 62 seconds remaining in regulation as he beat Elliott far side. Wingels, mak-



Senators defenceman Erik Karlsson, right, defends against Calgary Flames left wing Johnny Gaudreau during third period in Ottawa. SEAN KILPATRICK / THE CANADIAN PRESS

THURSDAY in Ottawa

3	2
FLAMES	SENATORS

ing his Senators debut after being acquired from San Jose on Tuesday, tipped Fredrik Claesson's point shot to open

scoring for Ottawa early in the third.

Calgary scored first for the first time in 10 games as Ferland opened the scoring at 9:39 of the second.

The Flames made it 2-0 with under three minutes remaining in the second period as Dougie Hamilton deked around Ryan Dzingel to get a shot off. Poor defensive cover-

age left the puck out front where Monahan jumped on it and buried it.

Both teams struggled to create anything in the opening period as Kyle Turris had the best chance for the Senators, while Sam Bennett had an opportunity to get the Flames on the board but Condon made the save.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



B.C.'s Adam Hadwin shot a 66 while leader Justin Rose of England shot a 65 at Torrey Pines in San Diego. GETTY IMAGES

GOLF

Hadwin just off lead as Tiger struggles

Canada's Adam Hadwin, who shot 59 last week in the California desert, shot a 66 in the opening round of the Farmer's Insurance on Thursday in San Diego.

Justin Rose set the early pace with a 7-under 65 on the North course at Torrey Pines.

Coming off back-to-back bird-

ies to reach 1-under par, Tiger Woods followed with three straight bogeys, and then a double bogey when he hooked his tee shot into a ravine. A birdie on his final hole gave him a 4-over 76 in his first PGA Tour competition in 17 months.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Westbrook and Lowry will now play at All-Star game

Russell Westbrook and Kevin Durant are teammates again, and Kyle Lowry will be joining fellow Raptor DeMar DeRozan at the NBA All-Star game.

Westbrook, the NBA's scoring leader and triple-double machine, and Lowry were among 14 reserves selected for the All-Star Game that will be played in New Orleans on Feb. 19. The Oklahoma City guard's average of 30.7 points, 10.7 rebounds and 10.4 assists per game made him an easy choice. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jackets' Atkinson to take Malkin's All-Star place

Columbus Blue Jackets forward Cam Atkinson has been added to the Metropolitan Division roster for the this weekend's NHL all-star event in Los Angeles.

Atkinson leads Columbus and is tied for eighth in the league with 46 points in 47 games. His 24 goals are tied with the Kings' Jeff Carter for second most in the NHL. He replaces Pittsburgh Penguins forward Evgeni Malkin, who is out with a lower-body injury.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mikael Kingsbury won last week's event in Val-Saint-Come, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kingsbury back on golden slopes

FREESTYLE SKIING

Olympic Park course one of skier's faves

The best moguls skier on the planet is also a tennis fan.

Winner of six straight World Cup gold in Calgary, Mikael Kingsbury says the Canada Olympic Park course feels to him how

a Grand Slam must feel to a tennis star.

"It's kind of like Rafael Nadal when he's in Roland Garros," Kingsbury said Thursday after a training session. "He won there so many years in a row. It's kind of like that for me here."

The all-time leader in World Cup victories was keeping an eye on the Australian Open as he prepared to defend his gold Saturday in Calgary.

The north-facing slope on the

city's west side is subject to warm winds and icy blasts sometimes within 24 hours, which makes the moguls track perennially tricky. Still Kingsbury has pulled out wins in Calgary no matter the conditions.

A two-time world champion and five-time winner of the season's overall World Cup crown, Kingsbury is missing only an Olympic gold medal to make his dominance complete.

Kingsbury reclaimed the yel-

low bib as the men's overall leader with his victory last week in Val Saint-Come, Que.

Calgary has been good not only to Kingsbury, but to the host team as Canadians raked in five out of possible six medals in 2016. Philippe Marquis of Quebec City placed second to Kingsbury.

The women blanketed the podium with Montreal's Chloe Dufour-Lapointe, sister Justine and Andi Naude of Penticton,

B.C., finishing first to third respectively.

So home is where the hardware is for the moguls team.

"We get a little bit more in our hearts and we want to push more," Kingsbury said.

"It's still the beginning of the season and we're getting into the part where we're starting to travel a lot to Asia, so to get those points here are very important for the end of the season."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



AUSTRALIAN OPEN SERENA SETS UP SISTER-ACT FINAL

Six-time Australian Open champion Serena overwhelmed 34-year-old Mirjana Lucic-Baroni of Croatia 6-2, 6-1 to set up a match with sister Venus in the women's final in Melbourne. Roger Federer will face either Rafael Nadal or Grigor Dimitrov in the men's final after beating fourth-seed Stan Wawrinka 7-5, 6-3, 1-6, 4-6, 6-3 in an all-Swiss. SAEED KHAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

United into League Cup final

Manchester United reached the English League Cup final despite surrendering its 17-match unbeaten record with a 2-1 loss to Hull in the second leg of their semifinal on Thursday.

United, which won the first leg 2-0, advanced with a 3-2 win on aggregate and will play Southampton in the final at Wembley Stadium on Feb. 26. On-loan striker Oumar Niasse scored the winner with an 85th-minute tap-in after Paul Pogba's equalizer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carter, Glenn reunited again as Roughriders

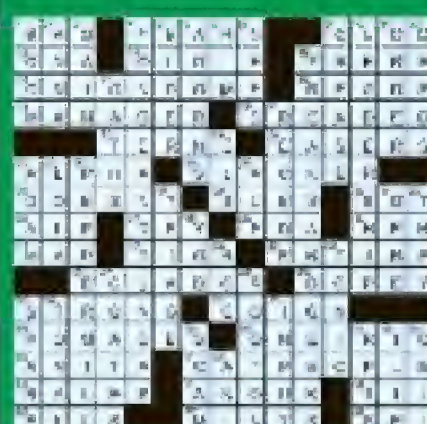
Duron Carter and Kevin Glenn are together again.

The receiver signed a free agent deal Thursday with Saskatchewan. The move comes two days after Glenn, who's entering his 17th CFL season, joined the club after being released this off-season by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Glenn and Carter were teammates with Montreal last season before Glenn was dealt to Winnipeg on Sept. 11. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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2	7	8	5	6	9	1	3	4
3	1	6	4	7	8	5	2	9
9	4	5	1	3	2	7	6	8
7	5	2	6	4	3	8	9	1
8	6	3	9	5	1	2	4	7
4	9	1	2	8	7	6	5	3
1	3	9	7	2	5	4	8	6
5	8	4	3	1	6	9	7	2
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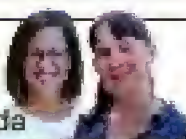
MAKE IT TONIGHT

Comforting Slow Cooker Chicken Stew



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



Just get your ingredients into the slow cooker in the morning and all the work of dinner is all done.

Ready in 6 hours 10 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 6 hours 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 6 chicken thighs
- 1 potato, peeled and cubed
- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 Tbsp fresh thyme (1 tsp dried)
- 1 or 2 bay leaves
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken stock
- 1 cup fresh or frozen peas
- 1/2 cup light cream

Directions

1. In a Dutch oven or high-sided skillet, sauté onions, celery and carrots in splash of vegetable oil for about five minutes.

2. Add flour, thyme and bay leaves and stir for a minute. Add stock and stir until smooth. Simmer for 3 or 4 minutes until sauce thickens.

3. Add the potatoes and good pinch of salt and pepper.

4. Place chicken thighs in the bottom of slow cooker and spoon the vegetable mixture over. Seal and set for 6 hours.

5. Add peas and cream and cook for 10 more minutes. Serve plain or over mashed potatoes.

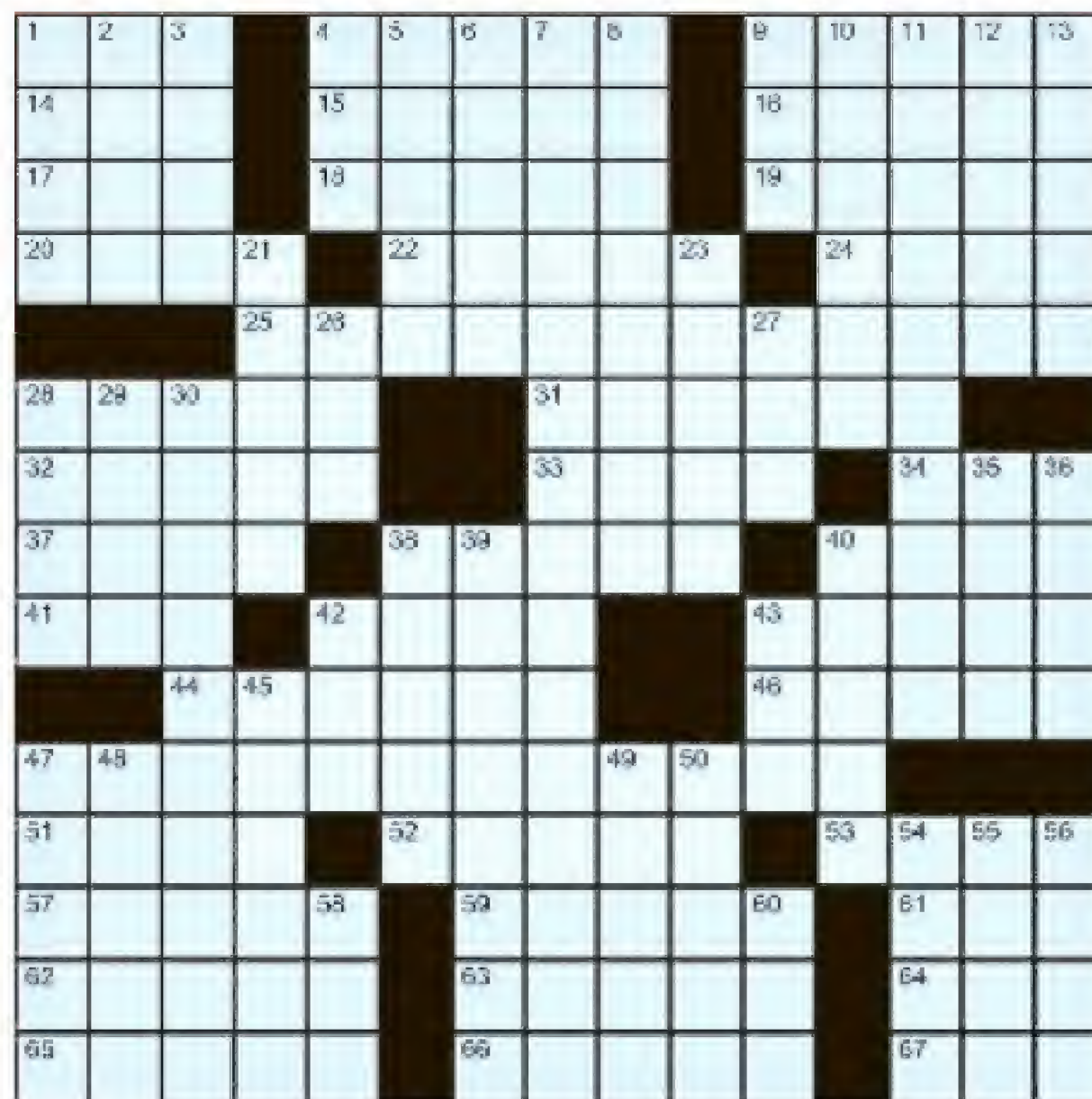
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. "Fancy that!" (pl.)
4. Genesis brother's namesakes
9. "Pretty Little ___"
14. Collagen target
15. Medical gig for George Clooney on '90s TV; 2 wds.
16. "I challenge you to ___" (Sword-fight starter)
17. Caustic solution
18. Princes' "___ the Times"
19. Gladiator's 351
20. Goes off course
22. High wave
24. ___ can (One-of-some spotted in the pantry)
25. Canadian scientist (b.1862 - d.1941) who was a recent Google Doodle; 2 wds.
28. Penned up
31. Swimsuits brand
32. Overturn
33. Street sort
34. Goose egg
37. Twisted
38. Sheathes, as with metal
40. Ms. Home
41. Tree chopper
42. Elinor ___ (British romance novelist)
43. Devoutness
44. Facing
46. Some chocolate treats
47. Irving ___ Inc., headquartered in Halifax
51. Prefix with 'are' (Land measure)
52. Contempt
53. Heartbeat read-outs, commonly
57. The Hunter constellation



59. Green Day's "When ___ Around"
61. Small battery
62. Happen as a result
63. Toast in a tavern!
64. PC information units
65. ___ voce (Softly)

66. Particular sports network awards
67. Iris locale

DOWN

1. "___ McBeal"
2. "Howdy!"; 2 wds.
3. Disgorge

4. Bronze Roman money
5. Nova Scotia island in the area of the Gulf of Maine and Bay of Fundy
6. Artist Mr. Degas
7. Section of the Rideau Canal with three vessel lift stations which

- are numbered 14, 15 and 16; 3 wds.
8. Keeping-track-of-game-points aid
9. Lake: French
10. Personhood proof; 2 wds.
11. "Going once, going twice..." professional
12. "The Beachcomb-

- ers" character
13. Embark embark-rassedly
21. "___ of a Woman" (1992)
23. Utopias
26. Math verb
27. Wide shoe width
28. Havana's locale
29. Top
30. Occupation of #25-Across, Botanist/___
35. Go ___ detail (Elaborate)
36. Potato chips brand
38. North Pole surname
39. Put words to music as Tim Rice, Brit-style
40. Vassal
42. American Pres. monogram after Bill Clinton
43. Cook's need
45. Decide not to enroll or select; 2 wds.
47. Sandals and sneakers
48. "Tell ___" by The Zombies
49. Sag
50. When flowers begin to bloom; 2 wds.
54. Candles-topped dessert
55. Eva's "Desperate Housewives" character, to pals
56. Mailing encl.
58. Retro's opposite
60. Pro golfer Ernie

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't get hung up on the fact that you feel a bit lonely or cut off from others today. It's just one of those things. We all have days like this. Plus, lots of people feel this way today.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Relations with friends or members of groups might be a bit strained or detached and cool today. Don't take this personally. It's not you. It's the spores in the air.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
There's no question that relations with authority figures are strained today. Knowing this, it's not a day to ask for a favour or permission, is it?

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Travel for pleasure seems to be a bit more like work today. Ditto for exploring educational opportunities. Struggle on.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You might be disappointed in your fair share of something today. "That's it?" Don't worry, because in a day or two, things will swing back in your favor.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Relations with partners and close friends are detached today. One tends to think, "What am I getting out of this relationship compared to what I'm putting into it?"

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your interactions with co-workers could be better. Others are not inclined to help you or go along with things. You might even feel the same way. Just coast today.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a bummer day for romantic relationships, because people tend to think, "What's in it for me?" This is not a giving day — it's quite the opposite.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Today your ideas about redecorating or making improvements at home might be halted, because the cost of things is just prohibitive. Wait a week to see what you think later.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Relations with daily contacts are strained today. In fact, you feel unloved and unappreciated. Oh well. This too, shall pass. (You are loved.)

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Something to do with your finances (business or personal) disappoints you today. Well, you are not alone. Many people feel a financial squeeze play right now.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Today you are more concerned with practical realism as opposed to touchy-feely matters. Frankly, you simply have to work with what you've got. Today, you're on your own.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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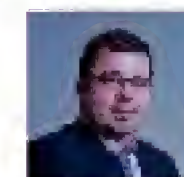
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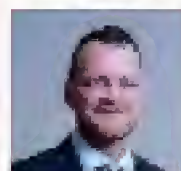
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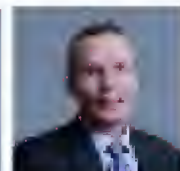
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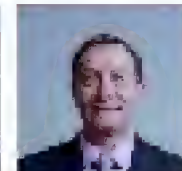
DARCY SCHINNOUR
SALES MANAGER
20 YEARS



MARTIN VENNARI
SALES MANAGER
10 YEARS



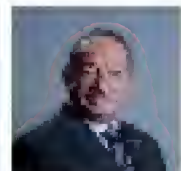
SCOTT CLAY
6 YEARS



JOHAN DEDEUGD
11 YEARS



HAN KIM
25 YEARS



JOE CHIARIZIO
49 YEARS



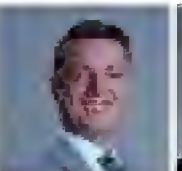
AARON SHOWIE
9 YEARS



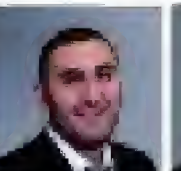
MICHAEL CYBULSKI
11 YEARS



PHIL LAWRENCE
23 YEARS



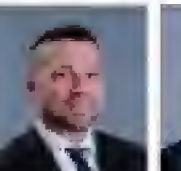
JOHN QUINLAN
14 YEARS



BILLY MANSOUR
2 YEARS



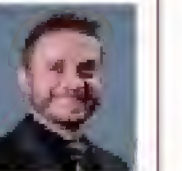
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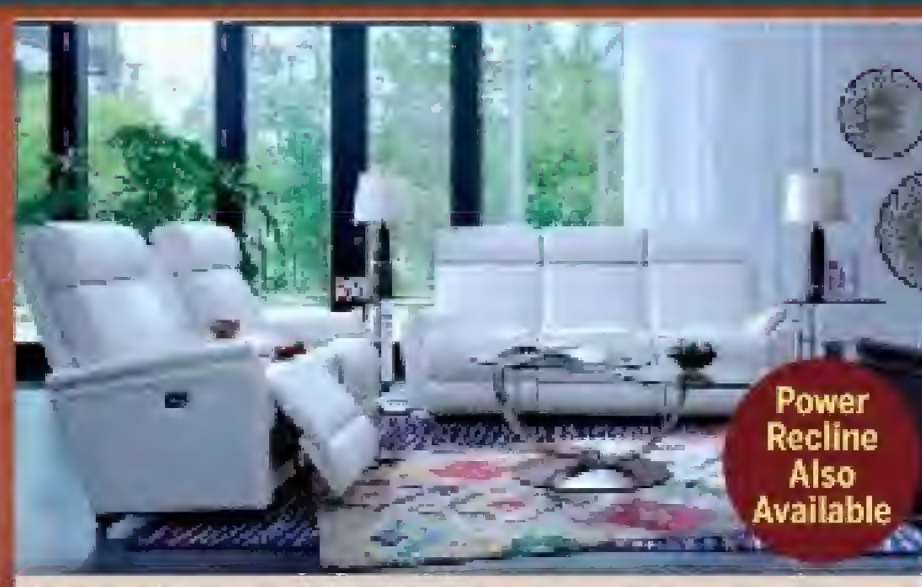
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3 Calgary Locations

7300 - 11 Street SE - 1 block North of Heritage Drive

5111 Northland Drive NW - Northland Village

293100 Crossiron Lane - Crossiron Common

Monday-Friday 10am-8pm Saturday 10am-6pm Sunday 11am-5pm

free **Fin** home
design
consultation
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